



LADIES CHOICE

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Newsletter

MARCH 2020
VOLUME LVIII No. 7

Diane Gilbert, Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust, speaks about Restoration Project at March Meeting

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club is pleased to have Diane Gilbert of the Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust as our speaker at our meeting on Thursday, March 19th.

Diane Gilbert, who possesses a clear vision, courage, integrity and humility, takes a leadership role in assisting the Town of Dartmouth attain its community preservation goals. In November 2018, Preservation Massachusetts awarded Diane the K. Julie McCarthy Community Spirit Award for her work.

Ms. Gilbert will do a PowerPoint presentation showcasing a restoration project of the Elihu Akin House from the foundation up, a project that is listed on the State Register of Historic Places and deemed eligible for listing on the National Register. The Elihu Akin House, one of the oldest houses in the Town of Dartmouth, Massachusetts, was built in 1762 by housewright Job Mosher and purchased by Elihu Akin in 1769; the Akin House is older than America. The age of the house alone would give

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It's coming up Daffodils!



All the hard work last Fall is starting to pay off!

More pictures on page 4

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

March Meeting

March 19

11:00 am

Reynard Hall

Mattapoissett Congregational Church

11:30 am Meeting begins

11:45 am Luncheon

12:15 pm Speaker

1:00 pm Meeting resumes

Please note:

These times are general estimate.

Guest Speaker:

Diane Gilbert

President/Treasurer,

Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust, Inc.,

Dartmouth Historical Commission

Hostess: Sandy Hering

Committee:

Liz Ackerman

Sue Mitchell

Ellen Flynn

Kathy Saunders

Pat Goss

Ellen Schneider

Nancy Holland

Blaise Simpson

Chris Ketchel

Cindy Turse

Janet Liljedahl

Board Meeting

Thursday, March 12

10:00am - 12:00pm

Mattapoissett Public

Library Meeting Room

Join our MWC FACEBOOK Group
to keep informed of all
MWC news & events!



JOIN NOW!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Club Members,

Spring is just around the corner and almost time for the 1400+ daffodils to be poking their heads above ground. Another "easy" winter, weather wise, with just a small amount of snow to contend with!

Our February luncheon, prepared and served by Tea Chairman Jennifer Shepley and her committee, treated us to a delicious meal. The tables were decorated with red and white tablecloths and vases with red and white flowers, getting us into the mood of Valentine's Day. Thank you, ladies. We were pleased to welcome three guests to our meeting, Cynthia Bell, guest and neighbor of Elaine Grant, Alice Openshaw, a newcomer to our town and Mary O'Keefe's daughter, Megan. We are hoping that they will plan to join our group.

The meeting opened with taking a vote on the annual donations. The list was read and those present voted and accepted that our Club will make donations in the amount of \$1,875.00 for the year 2020.

Our speaker for the month was Luana Josvold, representing the League of Women Voters of the SouthCoast. She explained the how and the why of the census taken every ten years and the importance of making sure we participate as we stand to benefit from the recordings. Ladies, make sure that you fill out the questionnaire which can be done in paper form or online.

Karen Gardner and Mary O'Keefe have agreed to establish the new MWC Member Picture Directory. Karen will be taking photographs of members at the April 16th Annual Luncheon at the Inn on Shipyard Park. This will prove to be an asset to our Club, along with our Blue Book, the Yearbook of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club.

There has been a change in our Publicity Chairmanship. Karen Gardner will continue as photographer and Eileen Marum has accepted the role of writing the publicity of our Club for publication. This will ease the responsibility for Karen, who has been doing a great job in getting the word out about our Club and its' activities and we are grateful to Eileen for stepping forward to fill this position. Thank you both taking on these positions for our Club.

Our March 19th meeting will have Diane Gilbert, President/Treasurer of the Dartmouth Heritage Preservation Trust, Inc. and the Dartmouth Historical Commission. She will have a power point presentation on the Elihu Akin House, one of the oldest houses in Dartmouth. Looking forward to seeing you at this meeting.

As always, you are encouraged to bring a friend or neighbor to our meeting.

Fondly,

Roxanne Bungert
President, MWC

***"You already possess everything necessary
to become great"***

Native American Proverb: Crow Tribe

GROUPS SCHEDULES

Garden Group

Wednesday, March 16 9:00am
The March meeting of the Garden Group will be our trip to Smith College in Northampton, MA on March 16th, so NO meeting at the Library on March 4th. The Smith College Bulb Show is a spectacular event every year, with thousands of bulbs in flower in two of their greenhouses plus the tropical greenhouses and the cactus and succulent greenhouses are open to the visitors. The drive is about 2 1/2 hours, so we will depart from the Park 'N Ride at 9:00am, view the show and then go to lunch in Northampton before driving home, arriving back a bit after 4 PM. Sandy would like to hear back from all who can make the trip.

Bridge I Group

Tuesday, March 3 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Host: Betty Parker

Bridge II Group

Tuesday, March 10 12:00pm
Host: Jackie Slade

Tuesday, March 24 12:00pm
Host: Barbara Thommen

Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint & More

March 26 2:00pm - 4:00pm
Home of Marie Rottler
23 Channel Street, RSVP 508-828-8091

Great Decisions

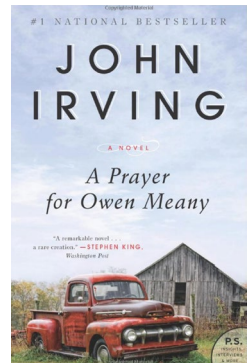
Wednesday, March 4
1:00pm - 3:00pm
Accessible Community Room
Mattapoissett Free Public Library
5 Barstow Street, Mattapoissett, MA

Literature Group

Wednesday, March 11
9:30 am

Host: Carole Clifford

The Literature Group will meet on Wednesday, March 11, 9:30am, at the home of Carole Clifford, 87 North Street. The discussion book is "A Prayer for Owen Meany" by John Irving. We always welcome new members. Come even if you have not read the book.



A PBS Great American Read Top 100 Pick

"In the summer of 1953, two eleven-year-old boys—best friends—are playing in a Little League baseball game in Gravesend, New Hampshire. One of the boys hits a foul ball that kills the other boy's mother. The boy who hits the ball doesn't believe in accidents; Owen Meany believes he is God's instrument. What happens to Owen after that 1953 foul ball is extraordinary."

LITERATURE GROUP READING LIST 2020

March	"A Prayer for Owen Meany" John Irving
April	"A Gentleman in Moscow" Amor Towles
May	Museum Trip



Social Cocktail Group

Sunday, March 22
5:00 - 7:00pm

The Social Cocktail Group will gather at the home of Myra and Jim Hart at 115 North Street to welcome SPRING. Guests should bring an appetizer to share and beverage/s of choice. Please RSVP **Myra 508.758.4703** or myralhart@gmail.com

Garden Group Tour

More than a dozen members of the Garden Group took a field trip to the New Bedford Whaling Museum on Wednesday, February 5th. Tia Maria's delicious lunches powered our walk across the street for our private tours with our own MWC member docents, Erin Burlinson and Kathy McAuliffe. This was truly an informative day. The tour did include include flowers - hydrangeas from Portugal in a display and lovely thank-you flower arrangements by Sandy Hering for Kathy & Erin.

Photos by Cindy Turse





The Garden Group enjoying lunch at Tia Maria's before heading to the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

It's coming up Daffodils!



*Photos by
Karen Gardner*

Daffodils planted at the Harbor and entrance to town on North Street are starting to peek out!

MWC Spring Fundraiser “Pathway to Planting” May 16 – 18, 2020

As mentioned in our last newsletter, the Executive Board has voted to continue the Pathway to Planting fundraiser that was begun last spring. We are very pleased to announce that Linda Clifford has stepped forward to help with this project.

The response from them was very positive so we are anticipating that we won't have a problem securing the same vendors. The passbooks will be available at the April 16th Annual meeting at a cost of \$10.00 each, prior to Mother's Day. The weekend of May 16th and 17th is the date of the fundraiser and we are hoping that some of the vendors will extend the discount date, as in last year's event.



MWC March Meeting Speaker, Diane Gilbert

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the house architectural importance; however, the house also has historical significance. The Akins were one of Dartmouth's founding families who were instrumental in the development of the town, and the homestead remained in the Akin family for 234 years.

The Akin House was one of a few houses that survived the invasion of the British and the subsequent burning of much of Dartmouth, New Bedford and Acushnet during the American Revolution. As the direct result of the raid, the Akin family lost everything except the house on Potter's Hill and surrounding land. Elihu moved his wife and children there.

To quote Diane Gilbert, "Every time an important historic house or structure is lost or demolished, we lose another connection to our history, the people who settled our coastal areas over the centuries and their culture. We have already lost too many architecturally significant buildings and structures, and as a result, the special character shaped by our history has been diminished." And to put it pragmatically, preservation is a tool for



stabilization of property values, economic development and sustainability.

In 1921, the Akin House became a part of film history as a location for *Down to the Sea in Ships*. The silent film classic contains rare footage of a whaling voyage filmed on the *Wanderer* and the *Charles W. Morgan*, and clearly shows the condition of the Akin house in 1921.

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Eileen Marum, Roxanne Bungert and Luana Josvold

At the February Meeting, Luana Josvold spoke about the League of Women Voters and how the Tri-Town League (Marion, Mattapoissett, and Rochester) has expanded to become the League of Women Voters of South Coast encompassing communities from Westport to Wareham.



Wildflowers of Southeastern Massachusetts at Marion Natural History Museum

Wednesday, March 4th, 10:30 – 11:30

With plant enthusiast Martha “Mike” Schroeder. Mike will be sharing a slide show of locally taken photos of wildflowers thought to have existed in Southeastern Massachusetts since before the arrival of the Europeans. Every flower has its own story.

No charge for the program however registration in advance is strongly recommended. The museum is located at 8 Spring Street, Marion, MA, on the second floor of the building that is shared with the Elizabeth Taber Library. Please contact the Museum Director to register at Director@marionmuseum.org or call the museum and leave a message at 508-748-2098.



CARE Project for Military Women

The CARE Project for military women was well supported at previous meetings. This project is ongoing and “the white box on the side table” will be at all monthly meetings. A list of the items desired by these women is below. Christine Voss, who resides at 30 North Street has agreed to have a bin on her front porch for any contributions to this effort. Please support this project as it has been noted that some of these women serving overseas NEVER receive a package from home.

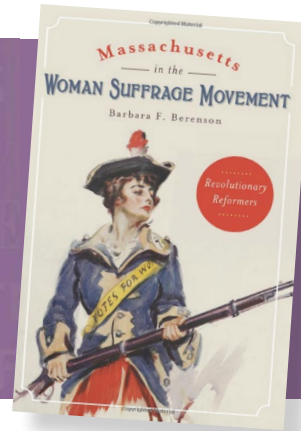
- Multivitamin or vitamins such as Hair/skin/ nails, vitamin C
- Adult coloring books and markers
- Hair ties
- Hair gel
- Trail mix, granola, nuts, energy bars, peanut butter, Nutella
- Lip balm
- High quality body wash
- Shampoo/ conditioner
- Resistance bands
- Yoga mat
- Candy/gum
- Motivational quotes and books
- Female hygiene products including new razors
- Hand sanitizer
- Nice deodorant
- Sudoku/word finds/cards/magazines
- Face and body lotion with Aloe or Shea butter
- Turkey jerky
- 5 hour energy bottles
- Books/ magazines
- Shaving cream (non aerosol)
- Baby wipes
- Ovaltine

100th Anniversary

WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

★ 1920–2020 ★

This program is co-sponsored with
The League of Women Voters Southcoast



THE PURRINGTON LECTURE SERIES PRESENTS

Author Barbara Berenson Saturday, March 7th 2 pm

"Massachusetts in the Women's Suffrage Movement"



Barbara F. Berenson is an author and historian based in Boston. She has written four books about abolitionism and women's history. A graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, she retired from her position as Senior Attorney at the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court in June 2019.

Books will be available for purchase and signing.



Mattapoissett Free Public Library

P. O. Box 475 | 7 Barstow Street
Mattapoissett, Massachusetts 02739 | 508-758-4171
www.MattapoissettLibrary.org

If you can't make the Mattapoissett Free Public Library Lecture –
the Friends of Borderland State Park presents the
2020 Centennial Lecture Series featuring Barbara Berenson on March 29th

Presentation will last approximately 45 minutes, followed by a Q & A. This is a part of the Friends of Borderland's Annual Meeting and is free to the public and members. Donations are accepted. Seating is limited, first-come, first-seated. Doors open at approximately 12:45pm. Please park in front of the Ames Mansion. Enter at 257 Massapoag Avenue, North Easton, MA. In case of snow or inclement weather, parking may change to the main parking lot. [CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



THE MATTAPOISETT
WOMAN'S CLUB PRESENTS

Susan B. Anthony

"Failure is Impossible"

A HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE
BY SHERYL FAYE

April 26, 2020
2pm - 3pm

FREE ADMISSION

Donations toward our
Scholarship Fund appreciated

RSVP REQUIRED

Visit [Eventbrite](https://www.Eventbrite.com) or www.MattapoissettWomansClub.org
to reserve your space today!

For more than 70 years, women like Susan B. Anthony fought for women's right to vote alongside men on Election Day. Learn more about the struggle and success as we mark the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment.



LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

PERFORMANCE HELD AT REYNARD HALL

MATTAPOISETT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH | 27 CHURCH STREET, MATTAPOISETT, MA