



LADIES CHOICE

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Newsletter

June 2020
VOLUME LVIII No. 9

Why a virtual pie party is a great opportunity.

Remember the commercial where the family is waiting in the dining room while the mother sweats it out in the kitchen making rice crispy treats? Then she takes a bit of flour, tosses it at her face, grabs the plate of treats and goes into the dining room?

We don't have to sweat it out this year by going out to the garden to cut rhubarb, clean it, chop it, getting out 4 bowls, rolling pin, sharp knife, cutting strawberries, apples, washing blueberries, making dough, rolling out crusts, setting the oven, filling the crusts, watching the filling spill all over the oven, taking out the pie, cleaning up the mess we made. Then go sit down, have a cup of coffee, come back to the kitchen and see that someone has cut a piece of pie - now we have to buy the darn pie!

We also don't have to pretend to make pies this year. We can just send in a donation to MWC for the pies we would have purchased at the sale, which we did not have to bake. It's a calm, healthy way to save calories while supporting our club that has been a mainstay in Mattapoissett for how many years? Since 1941 for crying out loud! The beginning of WWII in this country.

2020 may be the beginning of a different kind of war, but we can do our part to keep us looking toward a better tomorrow.

And no clean up!



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Club Members,

This has certainly been a unique beginning to my term as president of the Mattapoissett Woman's Club. My installation was graciously accomplished on a phone call with Judy Livolsi. Roxanne, mask and all, delivered all the highly organized material from her term to me at my home which will be a great help. It is sad to realize that all the previous fundraising, summer activities... The Garden Tour, Taste of the Town and the Pie Parties... have been cancelled. Yet, the Scholarship Committee has been hard at work and will announce their choices for the three awards very soon. The Garden Group is beginning their summer plantings in town, taking all the necessary safety guidelines, and the daffodils were heart warming and gorgeous. A special Thank You to Roxanne Bungert for all her work to make this possible.



Looking forward, we have the fun idea from Barbara Van Inwegen about a Virtual Pie Party. We purchase a Virtual Pie, or two, send a check to Lois Ennis and not gain weight! Fun! Please consider doing that and the next three opportunities.

1. Suzan Mitchell is looking for members to brainstorm with her ideas for fall fundraising. Mary O'Keefe has already talked to me about a fashion show with the new owners of The Ansel Gurney House. We need members to join this Fund Raising Group with their ideas. Please contact me and help us out with new ways to raise money. Cindy Turse also has sent several ideas already including one regarding the making of wreaths.

2. Another group starting with Mary O'Keefe and Marianne Hickey is to increase our membership. Please let me know if you would like to join these two ladies with ideas.

3. Don't forget...we still need a Vice President this year and a Treasurer for next year. PLEASE CONSIDER SERVING!

Now indulge me for the moment regarding my own roots with the Mattapoissett Woman's Club. My grandmother, Ellen Heuberger was a founding member, my mother, Gladys Sherman Ellis, was a long time member; and officer; my sister, Anne Sherman Lima was the president and many other relatives over the years have been members. I am continuing this commitment with optimism and confidence for successful years due to the continued commitment of all of you. We will be doing things in a new way, but will continue our purpose of educational, philanthropic, civic and social goals.

Please stay safe and healthy this summer and as Fred Rogers once said, "Often when you think you are at the end of something, you are at the beginning of something else."

Carole Clifford

2020 MWC Scholarship Winners

For almost 75 years The Mattapoissett Woman's Club has been helping young people pursue their educational goals by awarding scholarships to high school seniors from the community. The Mattapoissett Woman's Club especially thanks the community for its continuing support of its biennial Garden Tour and the annual Taste of the Town during Harbor Days in July. These fundraising activities make the scholarships possible.

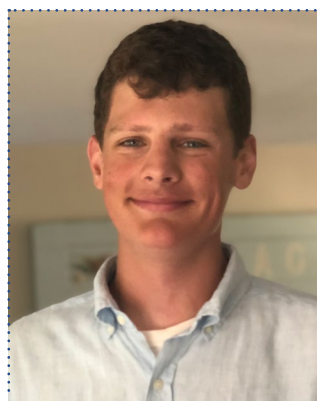
The Mattapoissett Woman's Club will offer two scholarships to Mattapoissett residents graduating from high school. Those who are re-entering the academic world after graduating prior to 2018 and are in pursuit of a post-secondary degree program, were also considered.



Lauren Lapointe



Megan McCullough



Ryan Picewick



Morgan Browning

Lauren Lapointe is a student at Bishop Stang. She is an excellent student excelling not only in academics but in her ability to volunteer in the community and also participate in various clubs at Bishop Stang. She plans to study nursing at Sacred Heart University.

Megan McCullough is a student at ORR where she has done well despite some learning challenges. She has maintained a balance of schoolwork, sports, school counsel, babysitting and social life while attending high school. Megan plans to attend Bridgewater State University and study social work and special education.

Ryan Picewick is a student at Old Colony High School where he has excelled in electronics and robotics. Ryan, who struggles with learning challenges, is talented in the electronics vocation and aspires to become an electrical engineer. He plans to attend Worcester Polytechnic Institute to achieve this goal.

Morgan Browning has earned the higher education \$1,000 Scholarship. She has a BS from University of Florida and is currently a Community Residence Counselor at McLean Hospital OCD Institute. Her goal is to complete a Masters/PhD in Clinical Psychology and has applied to several institutions of higher learning to fulfill her aspiration.

Philanthropic Kudos

In these days of isolation, it is heartwarming to receive thanks to our Club for its charitable giving. Here are some comments:

Veterans Transition House

www.vetshouse.org

"Thank you for investing in VTF and for your dedication to the homeless and at-risk veterans of our community. We are about to significantly expand to a modern campus which will enable VTH to serve many more veterans."



Mattapoissett Library Trust

www.mattapoissettlibrary.org

"With contributions such as yours, we are able to underwrite new programs, enhance the collection, and enrich the library environment in areas that are beyond the normal operating costs of the library."



YMCA Southcoast

ymcasouthcoast.org

"Thank you for your gift—now, more than ever."

Child & Family Services

child-familyservices.org

"The Mattapoissett Woman's Club is truly a hometown hero! Thank you for supporting the work we do in your community!"



YWCA and Sister 2 Sister

www.ywca.org

"Due to the pandemic these funds will be allocated for general operations to provide items that are needed to keep our day to day operations running as we continue to serve our participants through this crisis."

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca



Mattapoissett Land Trust

mattlandtrust.org

"We greatly appreciate your support in these trying times. Please take care of yourselves and others as we share the burden."

As you can see our Club has a significant affect on our community. This year our fundraising events have succumbed to the pandemic, and it is now our responsibility to figure out a way to continue to serve these worthy causes.

MEMBERS AT LARGE: Mary O'Keefe

Hi Ladies,

This is in response to the request to write a little bit about how I spent my time this spring.

I spent the pandemic "stay at home order" doing things that I'm sure we all tried to do, like donating to help charitable endeavors, supporting the workers who stepped up to help, and writing or calling people who might be alone. Church services have been on line and of course thoughts and prayers have been frequent. I've enjoyed funny jokes and stories on line, that came from clever, witty people with far too much time on their hands. Reading and books on tape have been a true gift and time killer as well. The Libby program at the Library is fabulous and free. On the personal level, I took on the painting of our cottage behind our home as well as doing some redecorating and updating. Most days at 4:00 p.m., I would cross the yard returning home singing, Hi Ho Hi Ho from "Snow White" just in time for Judge Judy and tea.



I figured since we had to cut our Florida vacation short by 2 weeks the money we saved could go to the project. It seemed like an OK idea until the Amazon deliveries started arriving several times a week to our front door. Everything from rugs, flooring, lamps, paints, sheets, heaters, electrical outlets, tablecloths, cleaning products etc were included in these deliveries. This all seems to have caused Angina to my Husband. Go figure.

Bill is building planters for a vegetable garden in backyard. If I go missing, check them out please. My children who are the benefactors of my hard work are so pleased they want the stay home order to stay in effect till I get the second floor done (the little darlings). That, however, is not on my agenda (at least not yet). The yard and sunshine is beckoning now. I miss family and friends and talking and hearing about everyone's world.

I miss the M.W.C., the Z and G2G. Meeting up with girlfriends and seeing MY GRANDCHILDREN. I can add all of you to that list as well.

Stay safe and healthy and see everyone hopefully in the Fall.

Smiles.

Mary O'Keefe

MEMBERS AT LARGE: Marie Rottler

I know everyone has their own story about these unusual times we are going through. I thought I might share my adventures during these challenging days.

My husband and I arrived home from California on March 14th. There was certainly a different feel in the airports and on the planes during our travel home. In California, things were moving along almost normally, but our son-in-law was starting to work from home the Monday after we left, and our grandsons were starting with virtual learning on Monday as well. Our daughter encouraged us to stay if we wanted to do so, but we thought the best plan would be to travel home. I had received a call from Tobey Hospital, where I am a volunteer. I was told that volunteers were not to report to the hospital until further notice. We realized that if we did not travel now, we might be here for a much longer visit.

On each of the two planes we were on going home, the occupied rows only had two passengers with middle seats empty and several rows had one or no passengers. Arriving in Providence, we stopped at a grocery store that evening, just to get the basics, milk and fruit. When we walked down the first aisle, there were so many areas where the shelves were empty - frozen dinners, bread, eggs, paper products,



and fruits and vegetables. It was such an eerie feeling. We were able to get some milk and also purchased a box of powdered milk (a product I always kept on hand when our children were small).

The next day, we went to complete our shopping and were able to find the items we were looking for. The stores were not as empty as the one we went to in Rhode Island, but there were still some things (like eggs) that were missing. On Monday, the stay in place order was issued. Daily life had become different, with no date when it would go back to "normal". I thought back to something my daughter told me several years ago. You can make a decision to move in either a positive or a negative direction in life, but you can never stay the same. With her voice in my head, I decided that I would move forward.



First came the list of all the different things that I always wanted to get to, but never found the time for. All the different areas of my tiny house, that would be better if sorting and pitching of unneeded items was done. That took a week and the stay at home was still with us. Next came the yard. Garden beds were

weeded, plants were purchased and planted. Mulch on all the border beds completed this project. A couple of weeks went by, and still we were staying at home.

I am continuing to find different projects that move something in a positive direction. But over all of this was a desire to have CONTROL over something, at a time when I did not have many options. I

From the Kitchen of Chef Colby

have fought a weight problem for many years and had a fear that this situation would move that in a negative direction. So that became my focus, to finish this in a positive not negative direction.

I am so lucky to have a husband who is a chef. Cooking is his happy place. So meals have been healthy and interesting. We both miss going to favorite restaurants, so did order take out twice. (When we went to the Pasta House, they were giving a roll of toilet paper for each order.) The Y has been closed, so to get our exercise, we have walked. Living at a beach, we have several beautiful walks that we can take and we have done that every day there was no rain.

I am so hopeful that we will all be able to get back to a "more normal" lifestyle. And whatever that lifestyle is, I want to continue moving in a positive direction.

I would love it if others would share their thoughts on these times.

I have included a couple of recipes from the Chef, in case anyone would like to try something new.

Can't wait to see everyone again.

Marie Rottler



Baked Brie Bites

Serves 12

INGREDIENTS

- 24 frozen mini phyllo pastry shells thawed
- 3 ounces brie cheese, rind removed
- 2 tbs red pepper jelly
- 24 toasted pecans
- 1 tsp sea salt

METHOD OF PREPARATION

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Arrange pastry shells on baking sheet.
 2. Cut brie into 24 small pieces. Spoon 1/4 tsp jelly in to phyllo cups.
 3. Top with cheese and pecan. Bake until cheese is melted.
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Chicken with Sesame & Breadcrumbs

Serves 8

INGREDIENTS

- 3 lbs boneless chicken breast cut vertically and sliced thin
- 1 cup mayonaise
- 16 ounces plain yogurt
- ¼ cup milk to thin yogurt
- 2 tsp ground mustard
- 2 tsp minced onion
- 2 tbs honey
- 2 tbs wasabi
- ¼ cup sesame seeds
- ½ cup breadcrumbs
- Non stick spray oil

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Chicken with Sesame & Breadcrumbs

METHOD OF PREPARATION

1. Mix yogurt with ground mustard and minced onion. Thin with the milk
 2. Mix 1/2 cup mayonaise with 2 tbs honey and 1/2 cup mayonaise with wasabi and reserve for dipping sauces.
 3. Mix sesame seeds and breadcrumbs for coating.
 4. Heat oven to 425°F.
 5. Dip chicken in yogurt and spice mixture and then in breadcrumb mixture. Place chicken on non stick baking sheet.
 6. Bake for 18 minutes.
 7. Use dipping sauces and serve.
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Roasted Vegetables

Serves 6

INGREDIENTS

Red, orange, yellow and green pepper
cut into slices
Summer squash
Zucchini
Carrot
Green beans
Salt and pepper
Olive oil or butter

METHOD OF PREPARATION

1. In baking dish put cut vegetables. Heat oven to 325°F.
2. Put vegetables covered into oven for 60 minutes until soft.
3. Divide out and serve.

Lemon Garlic Parmigiano Orzo & Herbs

Serves 6

INGREDIENTS

3 tbs lemon juice
3 garlic cloves minced
Kosher salt to taste
3 cups chicken broth
5 tbs butter
1lb. Orzo
1/2 cup grated parmigiano reggiano cheese
1/4 cup fresh parsley or dried
2 tsp thyme chopped
Black pepper to taste

METHOD OF PREPARATION

1. Combine in bowl lemon juice, garlic, 1/4 tsp salt.
 2. Boil pot of water over high heat. Cook Orzo 8 minutes until al dente.
 3. Boil chicken broth until reduced to one cup. Reduce heat to low add lemon garlic mixture and whisk in the butter. Keep warm.
 4. Add the broth mixture to the orzo. Stir to combine. Add cheese and parsley season with salt and pepper and serve.
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Devils Food Chocolate Chip Cookies

Makes 24

INGREDIENTS

1 Devils food cake mix box
1/2 cup vegetable oil
2 eggs
1 cup chocolate chips

METHOD OF PREPARATION

1. Grease cookie sheet. Heat oven to 350°F.
2. Mix cake mix, oil, eggs, and chocolate chips.
3. Roll cookie mix into 1 inch balls.
4. Place on cookie sheet. Use two sheets for the cookies, 12 on each spaced apart.
5. Bake for 10 minutes, remove and cool cookies.
6. Enjoy!

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group

The Garden Group will be doing our planting this year by doing it in small groups to maintain social distancing. Several of us will pick out plants at local nurseries and we will plant each project independently. The Post Office window boxes will be done in a remote location and simply dropped into the boxes at the Post Office so we can avoid all the people coming and going at the Post Office. At this printing we have Garden Group volunteers shopping for all of the projects. The watering and weeding of the sites that we maintain will be done by volunteers throughout the summer as independent projects, so safe distancing is not an issue. What is an issue is that the Garden Group has not met since February so we have set up a zoom call on Wednesday, June 3rd. Look for a new email on the 2nd or 3rd with the link from Barb Van Inwegen to join the meeting. We will be able to see the watering schedule and add our names to the weeks and projects to keep our plants looking good this summer. **Below is the link to our 2020 Watering Schedule** which will be posted on the MWC website when completed.



Another feature to our website this year will be a [“Volunteer Opportunities”](#) spot on the MWC Web Site. Please check the website often where we will post new opportunities, such as sites that need weeding or new fundraising opportunities that our new working group comes up with. It will be another way to keep us connected during these unusual times.

Stay healthy and enjoy the gardening.

Sandy Hering
Garden Group Co-Chair

[Click here to go Garden Group Webpage to Download Watering Schedule](#)

One last look at the Daffodil planting on North Street



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Social Cocktail Group

Social Cocktail Group. Whoopee! It's been a long time since we've seen each other and we probably can't do in-person until fall. Let's gather virtually and ZOOM! We can share stories, drinks, new hairdos, and food on Saturday, June 13th @ 4PM. For all who want to participate, please reply to Cindy Turse (mahina@turse.org) and Barbara Van Inwegen (barbvani11@gmail.com) by email. You'll receive a ZOOM invitation in your email with a clickable link. The link can be opened ten minutes before the time of the party. Pour your wine, beer, cocktail, tea or sparkly water, grab a snack and socialize!



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Recording Secretary

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Lois K. Ennis

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Welcome New Members

Judy Livolsi
Madeline Reid

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

