



LADIES CHOICE

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Newsletter

www.MattapoissettWomansClub.org

June 2021
VOLUME LIX No. 10

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Club Members,

WOW! What a year!

Thankfully we are coming out of our isolation protected by a much needed vaccine. It has been quite a journey and let me share a happy moment I experienced. One day, I was in my usual "covid fog" when in the mail arrived the cardinal you see here and a bookmark with a lovely note. I was a lucky recipient of greetings from Bethany Couto and her son Leo. If you remember, she had written to us in February's Ladies Choice, that she and her son had set a goal to mail a card or letter every day. Leo was learning to do for others and he loved to raise the flag each day on the mailbox. They both thought it would be a nice surprise for folks in isolation. Well, it certainly was! The cardinal now is on my refrigerator and it reminds me everyday of how we all can brighten people's lives in the simplest of ways.

This last year has been a constant reminder of the importance of relationships and how much the Woman's Club members do to make all the lives around us better. I am looking forward to a return to some normalcy next year and to our traditional activities. Set your calendars now for our first in person meeting on September 16, 2021, a Welcome Back Potluck.

Carole Clifford
President, MWC



Carole Clifford
President, MWC



A lovely mailbox greeting from Bethany Couto and her son Leo

Mark your calendars! see details on page 5

**Tea in the Garden
at Barb Van Inwegen's**

June 17
2:00pm - 4:00pm

MWC Garden Tour

June 26
10:00am - 4:00pm

**John Forti: Garden Historian,
Ethnobotanist and Garden Writer**

August 3
4:00pm

Mattapoissett Woman's Club Executive Board Meeting: May 13, 2021 via Zoom

Recording Secretary Meeting Summary

The Executive Board meets on the Second Tuesday of the month to discuss fund raising events, various projects we are working on and ideas to retain as well as increase membership. As this has been a very unusual year due to the pandemic and we have been unable to gather in person, we decided to publish a summarized version of our meeting in "Ladies Choice" as a means of keeping the up to date with what is going on with the club.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Elaine Grant will write a thank you to Jim@GTG and Andy Bobola for their assistance with the Tag Sale. Our member Alice Williams has died. Family will be contacted about their suggestion for a book donation to the Library.

TREASURER'S REPORT: \$2891 was deposited to the Scholarship Fund as proceeds from the TAG Sale, cards and Pathway booklets and a refund from the Lions Club for last years Harbor Days.

Pathway to Planting: Selling of the booklets has been slow due to our lack of in person contact. Barbara Van Inwegen has issued a challenge to all members to sell the all 100 booklets and she will host tea in her backyard for all.

WEBSITE: Marie Rottler explained why some members did not receive LC and how that is being rectified. The Paypal button will be installed. Suggestion was made to refer to Land Trust website for a model.

PUBLICITY: Information about the Garden Tour will be published in all the weekly publications after Pathways to Planting weekend.

GARDEN GROUP: Sign up sheets for watering will be available online. The response has been good but more help is needed. An additional program has been added. Four gardens will be part of the weeding rotation which will occur on Tuesdays at 8am. Sign up will be on a week by week basis. Karen Gardner has resigned as Co-chair and Sandy is interested in having another person join her.

RECRUITMENT/RETENSION: Tag Sale was a great success not only financially but also for the visibility and new members.

SCHOLARSHIP: Recipients and non recipients have been notified and newspaper article upcoming. Bethany Cou-tu has been invited and accepted an invitation to join this committee for the upcoming year.

NOTECARDS: 100 of new Summer and flower cards have been ordered.

New business:

GARDEN TOUR: The tour is on as scheduled.

DONATION: The Club has agreed to co sponsor a program at the Library hosted by John Fonti and to cosponsor 2 girls to attend Girls State.

CUB SCOUTS: Francis Cairns with 53 Pack Club Scouts has asked for our participation on May 22 for town cleanup

Linda Clifford for Sherry Hoines
Recording Secretary

Please note:

Our next Executive Board Meeting
SEPTEMBER 9 AT 10:00AM

Mattapoisett Woman's Club Executive Board Meeting: May 13, 2021 via Zoom

Corresponding Secretary Report

A thank you letter was sent to member Marie Rottler for bearing the cost of the Post Office pansies.

A thank you was sent to member Sherry Hoinés for her generous donation to the Scholarship Fund.

A thank you was received from Gifts to Give, along with special thanks from 5th grader Dylan Smith on a notecard designed by an ORRJHS student, Lukas Michaelis.

Thank you letters were also received from the Mattapoisett Museum, Mattapoisett Library Trust and the Veterans Transition House for our donations.

A "Welcome" letter and membership application were sent to Pat Charyk, fairly recent Mattapoisett resident.

A thank you letter was sent to the Ackermans of Oxford Creamery for their donation of 50 coupons for a free cone with the purchase of a Pathway to Planting passport.

A thank you for our support was received from Rachel Perry of New Bedford, Miss Massachusetts Outstanding Teen.

The Spring Newsletter of the YWCA was received.

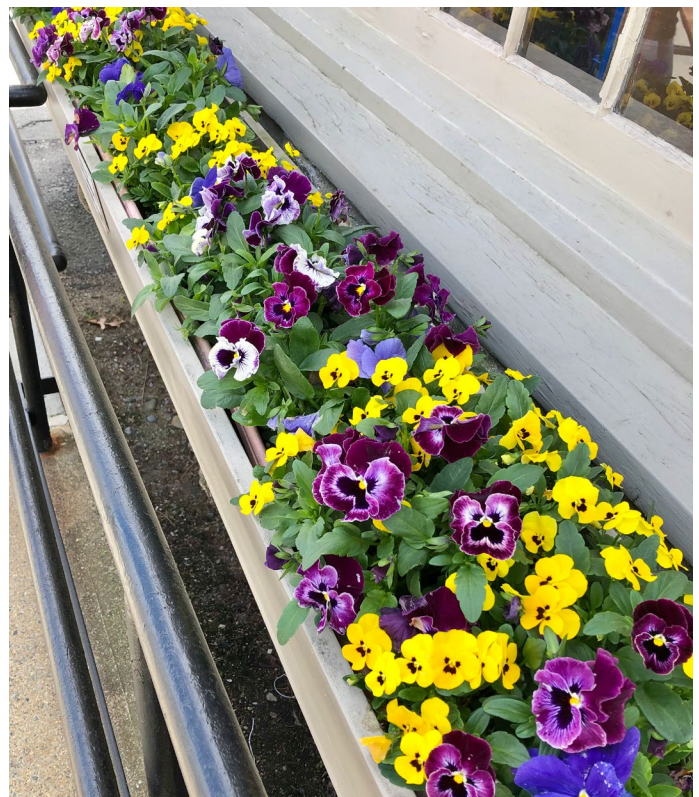
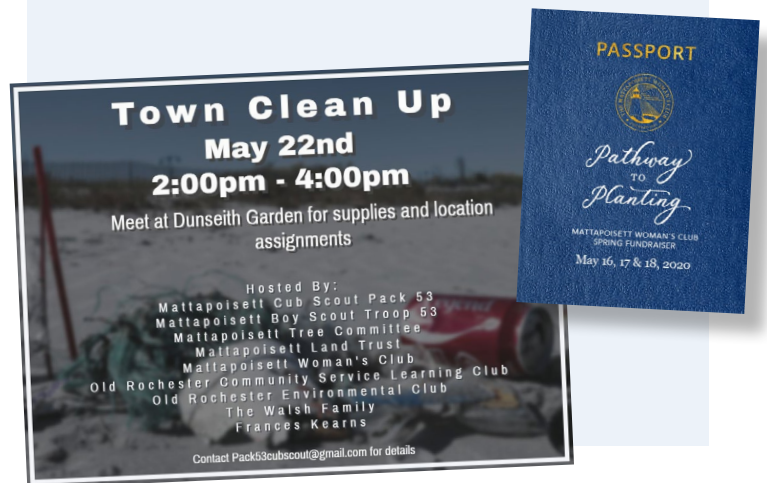
Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine Grant

Corresponding Secretary

Thank You Members

- For supporting the Town Wide Cleanup on May 22, 2021
- For sponsoring Amaya McLeón, a student at ORR, at Girls State
- Beautifying the Town of Mattapoisett
- Supporting our Pathway to Planting and Tag Sale fund raisers



Post Office pansies donated by Marie Rottler



Glorious Gardens

Mattapoisett Woman's Club Garden Tour

June 26, 2021 from 10 to 4 (RAIN OR SHINE)

TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT

mattapoisettwomansclub.org

MWC Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars for these events!

JUNE

MWC 2021 Garden Tour

JUNE 26

In celebration of our 80th Anniversary, the Mattapoissett Woman's Club announces a celebratory garden tour, Glorious Gardens, on Saturday, June 26, 2021, from 10am to 4pm, rain or shine. The public is invited to view seven fabulous gardens selected for a variety of gardening styles. Inspirations await the attendees who visit the various gardens—from formal to informal, woodsy to cottage, seaside to secluded. The gardens will highlight the use of annuals, perennials, vegetables, herbs, shrubs, trees, and beautiful container plantings.

Advance tickets, \$25 each, will be available at the following locations: in Fairhaven - Periwinkles and Gotta Have It; in Marion - Always in Bloom and Eden Florist & Garden Shop; and, in Mattapoissett - Isabelle's, Pen & Pendulum, Great Scapes Nursery, Town Wharf General Store, and Ying Dynasty Restaurant. Tickets may also be purchased online using the PayPal button on the Mattapoissett Woman's Club website www.mattapoissettwomansclub.org

Tickets purchased on the day of the tour will be \$30 and only available at the Mattapoissett Woman's Club Garden Tour Tent in the parking lot next to Ying Dynasty Restaurant, 24 County Road, Mattapoissett. All ticket holders must pick up the map for the self-guided tour at the MWC tent on June 26th. No maps will be available before that date.

The proceeds of the garden tour will benefit the Mattapoissett Woman's Club Scholarship Fund.

The Massachusetts Covid guidelines will be followed throughout the tour.

JUNE

Tea in the Garden

June 17 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Barb Van Inwegen's house, 16 Winnatuxett Beach Road.

Please RSVP to Barb at barbvani11@gmail.com



JULY

Social Cocktail Group

Date/Time: TBA

There will be a Social Cocktail Group in-person gathering in mid-July. All are invited to Bobbie Ketchel's backyard – date, time and other details to be announced via email.

AUGUST

Guest lecturer John Forti

August 3 4:00pm

John Forti is a nationally recognized lecturer, garden historian, ethnobotanist and garden writer.

www.jforti.com

*Sponsored by MWC and the
Mattapoissett Free Public
Library*



Seeing Red, White and Blue!

Red, White, and Blue – the vision of the Mattapoissett Woman’s Club Garden Group as eighteen members gathered at the library to plant on Wednesday morning, May 26th. Some members dispersed to various sites around town with plants in hand while others filled planters and gardens on the library grounds. The areas planted include the pots at the Mattapoissett Historical Society and Town Hall, window boxes at the post office and Town Beach house, the lighthouse garden at the harbor, plus the gardens and planters at the Mattapoissett Free Public Library.

Special thanks to Sharon Doyon, who provided the vision and guidance for the red, white and blue theme, and who grew those lovely cannas now in barrels at the library this year. Sandy Hering kept the group focused while we had fun digging in the dirt and planting more than 200 plants in two hours.

Many gardeners were new to the group this year and a couple were new to gardening: Maureen Kelly, Bethany (and Leo) Couto, Ruth Ann Walega, Carole Clifford, Judy Sullivan and Lois Gallant. The MWC Garden Group makes Mattapoissett Beautiful.

Special thanks to our 18 planting volunteers and our summer weeding and watering volunteers who keep the plantings looking so nice.





Pathways to Planting Participant: Williams Trading Post

It all started with a few boxes of pansies! In the spring of 1949, Harold Astor Williams was recovering from an illness and surgery. Harold, or “Grandpa,” as our generation knew him, was ready to work on a part-time basis as he entered the retirement years of his life. With his wife Florence by his side (we are not sure who was the “real boss”), a few boxes of pansies were set out on display on wooden crates and old washstands. This was the beginning!

Located on the old road to Cape Cod before the advent of superhighways, business was soon booming, requiring assistance from the next generation, Harold Hunt Williams, fondly known as “Buzzie” by most, and his family. While continuing his photography business through the 50s, Buzzie added a helping hand to his folks, which in time evolved into a full-time venture. His sister, Ellen Williams Taylor, and her family, also helped out creating decorative baskets for the cemetery in the spring and helping with gardening as well as sales. The spring season found as all at W.T.P.

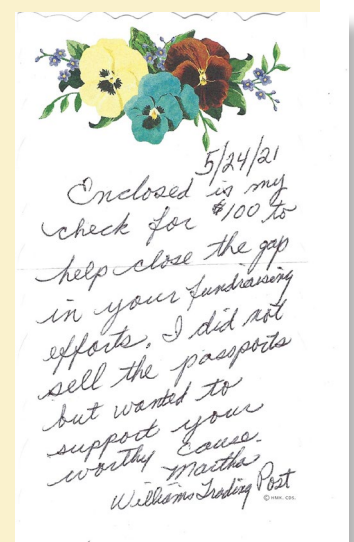
Over the years roofs were added, leaving space for the trees to grow up through the roofline and additional buildings were erected. The “annex” housed gifts, fabrics, and houseplants for many years. Textiles had been Buzzie’s original career path. The merchandise has changed somewhat from the early days into the largest craft supply shop in the area during the 70s and 80s and is now evolving into a well-stocked antiques and collectables shop including an inventory of affordable USA-sourced gifts, decorative supplies and craft items to compliment any decor.

In 2003, third generation owner Martha (Williams) Dupuis took over after retirement from her career as a school secretary. Williams’ Trading Post began to transform from a farm stand to the present garden center with traffic-stopping displays and friendly, knowledgeable staff. www.williamstradingpost.com



On a Personal Note!

When I visited Williams Trading Post for the second time during Pathway to Planting, I asked if I could leave Martha some booklets as my gift to her customers and I would donate the cost to the MWC Scholarship fund. She asked me how many booklets I had left (9) and I assumed it was just a question of interest. I left five booklets with her. The following week, I received a short note in the mail and a check for \$100 from Martha Dupuis. The check took us \$10 over our goal. What a generous woman! Please patronize Williams Trading Post. Folks who sign up on the website will receive notifications of everything-must-go sales every time she does her seasonal closings. Williams Trading Post will close on July 3rd and re-open on September 3rd. ~ Cindy Turse



Woman's Club Walks

The Monday walking group met at Silvershell Beach for a Marion village walk on May 3rd. The 2.5-mile walk highlights included architecturally interesting houses, beautiful gardens, new stores in familiar buildings, and a photo op with Elizabeth Taber. Laura von Zvek was a wonderful guide mixing tales of history with stories of current real estate trends in town. We viewed the annual visit of the swan couple at Silvershell from a distance. While she sat on the nest he was on patrol, or was that vice-versa?



MWC Tag Sale a success on many levels!

The Tag Sale on May 1st was a wonderful success and it exceeded our expectations in many ways.

The Club members got to gather, socialize and make some money. We exceeded our money goals and best of all we had a fun day!

The Retention and Recruitment Committee (R&R)





Mattapoissett Woman's Club 2021 Scholarship Awardees

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club awarded three scholarships to Mattapoissett students this year.

The club gave two \$2,000 scholarships to Mattapoissett residents who are graduating high school seniors and a \$1,000 scholarship to a Mattapoissett resident who is in pursuit of a post-secondary degree.

This year's recipients are Kara LeBlanc, a student at Old Colony Regional Technical High School. She plans to attend Johnson and Wales University to expand her baking and management skills. LeBlanc was a camper at the YMCA from a very young age and has progressed to become a staff member for the past three years.

Old Rochester Regional High School student Emma Williamson plans to attend Northeastern University with a double major in Mathematics and Political Science.

During her high school career, she interned with the Sippican Historical Society as an archival researcher and also received many school honors. She is an active member of the Massachusetts Climate Education Organization, whose goal is to mandate climate justice.

Serena Jaskolka, a graduate of OR and Worcester State University, is pursuing an M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology at the University of New Hampshire.

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club scholarship started in 1943 with \$5 awarded to a Center School Mattapoissett student. In 1948 the amount was \$100, and has steadily increased with community supported fundraising efforts. To date, more than \$100,000 in scholarships has been presented to local scholars.



From left to right: Old Rochester Regional High School student Emma Williamson and Kara LeBlanc, a student at Old Colony Regional Technical High School

[Join our FACEBOOK Group to keep informed of all MWC news & events!](#)



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group

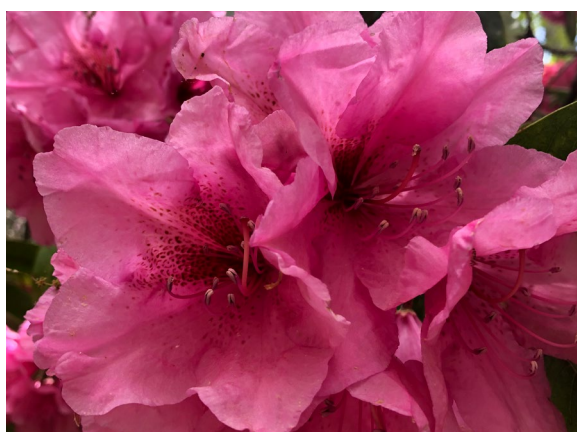
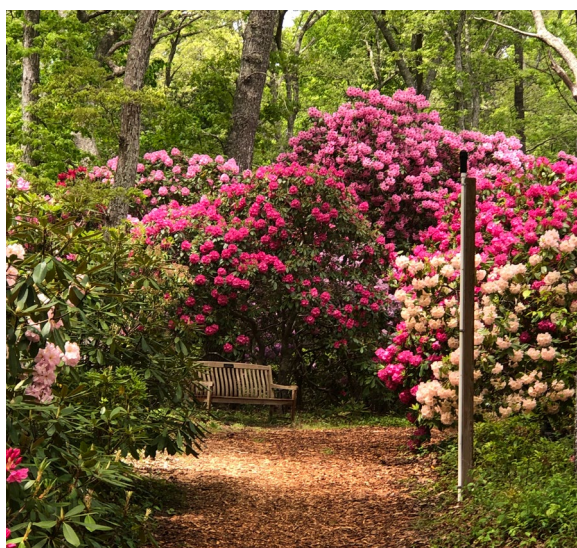
The Garden Group had our first trip since the beginning of the pandemic to Heritage Gardens in Sandwich, MA on May 28th. This was 2 days after our group planted the town two days earlier. (More on this on page 6). This trip was Heritage Gardens "Rhododendron Festival" and it was at its peak. It was a beautiful day, the blossoms were at their best, and we walked the entire property, getting our exercise after a box lunch! It felt safe, it felt even normal as we were outdoors and we are all vaccinated. Hope for normal is improving everyday and the Garden Group plans to return to Heritage for their Hydrangea Festival in July. Also in July, Sharon Doyon will be hosting the group in her backyard so both these event details will be sent via email over the summer.

So until then, stay healthy, keep up the watering in your own gardens and ours around town, join us for weeding on Tuesdays at 8am, according to the 'W' on the watering schedule, and enjoy a summer that will be much better than last year.

Sandy Hering,
Garden Group Chair



Sandy Hering
Garden Group Chair

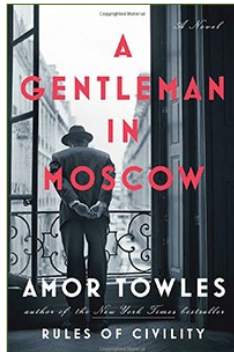


GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Literature Group

Wednesday, September 8, 10:00 am

The group had a delightful meeting in May, outdoors on Alice Openshaw's patio. It was a beautiful day and we enjoyed seeing everyone together in person



again. We are now on Summer break. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September 8 at 10:00 am at the home of Peg Olney, as long as conditions for meeting in person are safe. The discussion book for September will be "A Gentleman in Moscow" by Amor Towles. This was the book originally chosen for April, 2020 but the meeting didn't happen. We always welcome new members, so please consider joining us.



Peg Olney

*Literature Group Chair,
Ladies Choice Editor
1998 - 2018*

In 1922, Count Alexander Rostov is deemed an unrepentant aristocrat by a Bolshevik tribunal, and is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Rostov, an indomitable man of erudition and wit, has never worked a day in his life, and must now live in an attic room while some of the most tumultuous decades in Russian history are unfolding outside the hotel's doors. Unexpectedly, his reduced circumstances provide him entry into a much larger world of emotional discovery.

Brimming with humor, a glittering cast of characters, and one beautifully rendered scene after another, this singular novel casts a spell as it relates the count's endeavor to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a man of purpose.

See page 15 for review of last book *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd.

Following is a list of books suggested for Summer Reading.

"The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michel Richardson

"The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig

"I Have Been Buried Under Years of Dust" by Valerie Gilspeer and Emily Grodin.

Non-fiction. A memoir of Autism and Hope

"Whereabouts" by Jhumpa Lahiri

"Monogamy" by Sue Miller

"The Warmth of Other Suns" by Isabel Wilkerson

"Shuggie Bain" by Douglas Stuart

"Hell and Other Destinations" A 21st century memoir by Madeline Albright

"The Girl in the Window" by A.J. Finn

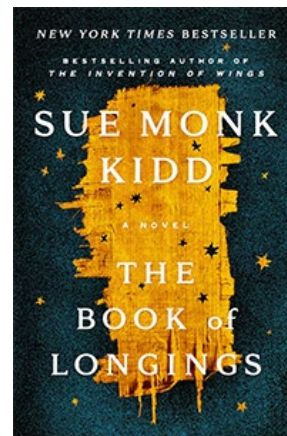
"The Light of Days" by Judy Batalion

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Literature Group *continued from page 14*

Book Review

Ten members of the Literature Group met on May 12 on Alice Openshaw's patio to discuss *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd. The novel tells the story of Ana, a spiritually inquisitive and ambitious teenager in first century Galilee, who falls in love with and marries a young Jesus of Nazareth. Kidd packs a lot of storytelling into 400+ pages. We agreed that she was brave to undertake writing an alternate version of the life of Jesus but that she did it in a respectful way, using the Biblical narrative as a backdrop and imagining what could have occurred in the gaps in that narrative. We noted that one reason Kidd was able to fill in some of these gaps with Ana is because there's so little documentation of women's lives in the Bible or elsewhere during this time. Although some of us thought the plot was less plausible than others, we all appreciated Kidd's descriptions of the daily life and culture. Interwoven with the love story of Ana and Jesus is the rest of Ana's own story - that of a determined and daring young woman who defies authority to use her skill as a scribe to secretly record the stories of voiceless women around her. We all enjoyed the discussion and the opportunity to meet in person on a beautiful spring day!



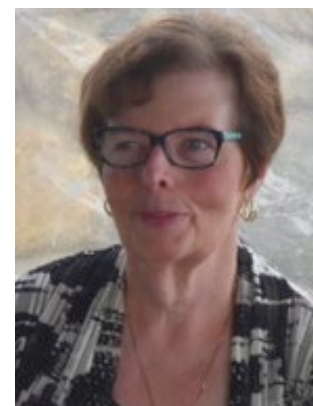
Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint and More!

Thursday, June 24, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The Knitting Group will be on June 24th from 2:00pm - 4:00pm. I am hoping that we will be able to meet at my home at 23 Channel Street (in the Crescent Beach Area). We have a large deck, where there is an afternoon breeze, and a lovely spot to knit and chat. Looking forward to seeing everyone in person.



Please send me an email at mjrotter@comcast.net to let me know of you plan to attend.



Marie Rottler

Knitting Chair, Website

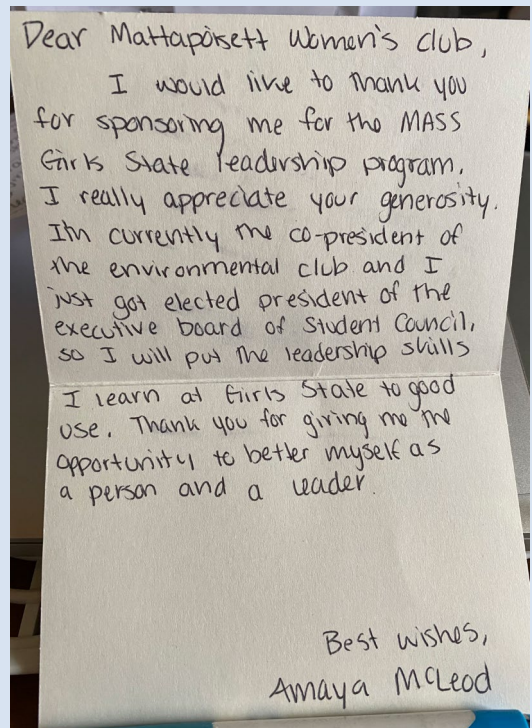
A sample of lightweight scarfs made by Marie.

Sponsorship Thank You

To the right is a picture of the letter we received from Amaya McLeod, a young woman we sponsored for the Mass Girls State Leadership program.

This sort of sponsorship is an example of the assistance our organization is able to provide to others. We are able to provide these opportunities to members of our community with the funds raised during our events such as the Tag Sale and the upcoming garden tour.

We should all be very proud of the support we are able to provide.



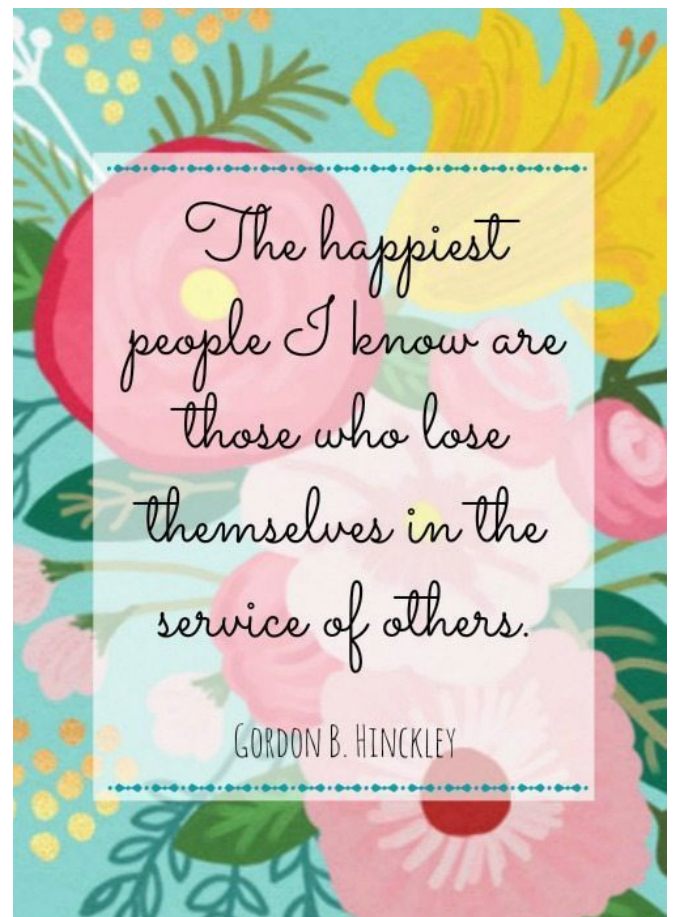
Note card fundraiser for Scholarships continues

We will have three new notecard collections available at Pen & Pendulum and Isabelle's – or special delivery from Cindy Turse.

The new collections are Salty, Ned's Point, and Boats and packaged as four assorted cards for \$10.

Our new flower notecard collection that celebrates the Glorious Gardens Tour, will be available at the above resources plus Blossoms Florist.

We will continue to stock all of the previous collections for the foreseeable future.



Officers

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Carole Clifford

Vice President

Linda Clifford

Recording Secretary

Sherry Hoines

Corresponding Secretary

Elaine Grant

Treasurer

Suzanne Mitchell

Assistant Treasurer

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Lois K. Ennis

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2021 Kathy McAuliffe

2022 Judy Livolsi

2023 Roxanne Bungert

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Cindy Turse

Photographer*

Karen Gardner

Website*

Marie Rottler

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Cindy Turse

Ladies' Choice Editor

Debra Nettles

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Erin Burlinson

Program Director*

Eileen Marum

Historian*

Jan Hubley

Garden Group*

Sandy Hering

Recruitment* & Retention

Carole Clifford (temp)

Special Committee Chair

Great Decisions

Ellen Flynn

Remembrances & Sunshine

Linda Clifford

Scholarship Committee

2020/2021 Myra Hart

2021/2022 Linda Clifford

2022/2023 Roberta Oakley

Audit Committee

2021 Anne Layton

2022 Tina Binette

2023 Cindy Turse

Social Activities

Bridge 1

Betty Parker

Bridge 2

Jackie Slade

Knitting

Marie Rottler

Literature Group

Peg Olney

Social Cocktail Group

Cindy Turse

Welcome

New Members

Marianne Hickey

Madeline Reid

PLEASE HELP! Donate to the Scholarship Fund today.

For over 75 years MWC has been helping young people pursue their educational goals by awarding scholarships to high school seniors from the community.

Please help keep this community tradition alive.

Any amount is greatly appreciated.

\$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail this form with your check payable to MWC to:
MWC Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box Box 1444, Mattapoisett, MA 02739