



LADIES CHOICE

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Newsletter

www.MattapoissettWomansClub.org

August 2022
VOLUME LXI No. 1

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Club Members,

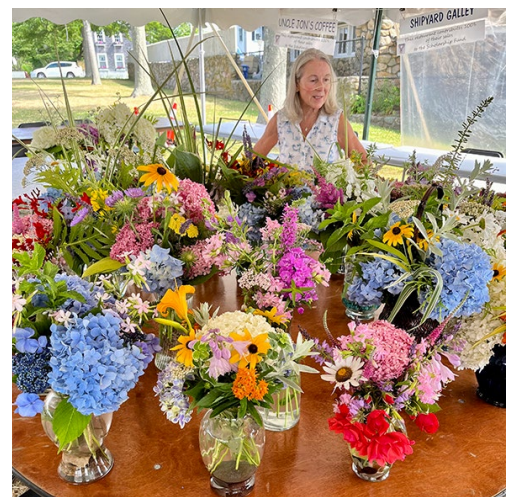
For me, August will be a time to rest and to enjoy the peaceful community that we each reside in, whether it is Mattapoissett, Marion, Rochester, Wareham, Lakeville, Fairhaven or others. And yes, we have members that reside in each of the listed communities and I hope I haven't left anyone out. This newsletter is addressed to each and every one of our members, those who are longtime members and those who are new, with the hope that each of us finds something to remember why this Club is important to you and how you can make this club better and more important to all.

July was a busy month for our Club, with many of you participating in our activities this year after two years of modified activities due to COVID. The Mattapoissett Taste of the Town was held under the tent at Shipyard Park this year, attracting hundreds of guests served by 11 restaurants in our town. Despite high winds all day on the 12th, the Garden Group prevailed in making beautiful flower arrangements for the tables, our volunteers held down our skirts or most often, wore pants to sell beverages and sell and take the tickets; the Lion's Club helped us set up and loaned us equipment; and very importantly, our restaurant partners served our guests with delicious items from their menus and donated to our Scholarship

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Sandy Hering
President, MWC



Mark your calendars!

Garden Group

Wednesday,
September 7
10:00am

Literature Group

Wednesday,
September 14
9:30am

Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, September 8
10:00am

Woman's Club Luncheon Meeting

Thursday, September 15
11:00am

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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fundraiser that this event supports. The end result is that our Taste of the Town was the most successful ever in the 17 years of its existence. And I cannot talk about these years without recognizing that this event has been organized and run solely for 16 years by the Woman's Club Past President, Lois Ennis. We are so grateful for her organization, her persistence, her leadership and her love of our club, our community and our scholarship goals. Thank you, Lois.

Only days after the Taste of the Town our club sold pies and other baked goods at Harbor Days. The table was stocked with pies made at three pie parties at the Congregational Church kitchen. Special thanks to Peg Olney and Kathy McAuliffe, Betty Parker and Elaine Grant, and Robin Lepore for organizing these parties and the many, many club members who helped make, bake and sell the pies and the baked goods made in your homes. We sold out quickly on the morning of the 16th, and netted a substantial profit to add to our donations that we give to Mattapoisett and surrounding communities each year with our philanthropic annual donations.

While all of these activities were happening, I cannot forget to mention the behind the scenes activities of the Garden Group. Cindy Turse' article about the activities of the Garden Group appears on Page 8 in Ladies Choice with lots of information, but it is important to mention how this devoted group works everyday during the summer to keep our beautification planters and gardens watered and weeded throughout the summer. Please remember them as you view the gardens at Town Beach, the Wharf, the Library, Town Hall and the Post Office. With the hot temperatures that we and many locations around the world are facing, this is not an easy task and yet they keep these gardens looking beautiful. These activities of the summer cover three of our club's four main tenets: Civic, Educational and Philanthropic. The one missing is Social and that is coming up with our meeting next month.

Thanks for reading this issue of Ladies Choice and hope to see you all in September.

Sandy Hering

President, MWC



**Executive Board Meeting at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 • 10:00AM**

Letter of Thanks to All Who Made the Taste of the Town Successful!

Congratulations to all the members (50 plus) who participated in July's Taste of the Town on Monday and Tuesday mornings and Tuesday evening. I am so proud of all of you.

It was a spectacular event, and everything that each of you did made that possible. Special thanks go to Mary Jackson who worked beside me early on. She and Carole Clifford co-captained on Monday and Tuesday. We struggled against the wind, but prevailed. It was a glorious night filled with the Showstoppers' music and the sound of hundreds of happy families and friends and, of course, delicious food.

In addition to our members, the following, that I know of, also contributed to our successful Taste:

Lion's Bob Saunders, Rick Price, and Bob Oakley. Also Phil Jackson, Bob Clifford, Bob Tapper, Peter Bracket, Donald Bamberger, Cathy West, Kerry Gabrian, Farah Gabrian, Kim O'Keefe, Haley O'Keefe, Highway Surveyor Garrett Bauer, Board of Health Agent Gail Joseph, and Village Sign owner Tony Tranfaglia. Thank you so very much. It wouldn't be possible without your help.

And let's not forget our participating restaurants: Magpies, Nick's Homemade Pizza, On the Go, Oxford Creamery, Shipyard Galley, The Inn on Shipyard Park, The Slip, Turk's Seafood, Uncle Jon's Coffee, Walrus & Captain and Ying Dynasty. May we all continue to support these people who make the Taste possible.

Thanks to all who helped me and made the Taste a success. See more pictures on page 4.

~ Lois K. Ennis



Lois K. Ennis
*Chairman,
Taste of the Town*



Taste of the Town 2022



The Mattapoisett Woman’s Club Scholarship Committee

The Mattapoisett Woman’s Club runs fundraising events throughout the year to generate revenue for scholarships. The Scholarship Committee is tasked with identifying the scholarship recipients.

The MWC offers two scholarships to graduating high school seniors who are Mattapoisett residents. In addition, a scholarship is granted to a Mattapoisett resident who is reentering the academic world in pursuit of a post-secondary degree.

During the school year, the Scholarship Committee ensures that applications are available to all possible candidates by reaching out to guidance counselors at local schools, and to the local press. The Committee meets in the spring to review the applications and choose the three recipients.

If you are interested in sitting on this committee next year, contact **Roberta Oakley**.



Above: 2022 Scholarship Awardees Thomas Galavotti, Sofia Martins with MWC President Sandra Hering.

PLEASE HELP! Donate to the Scholarship Fund today.

For over 80 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

MWC SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club is an active group of women. In addition to fundraisers and community activism the Club offers a diverse selection of groups.

Join our [Facebook page](#) or visit our website www.mattapoissettwomansclub.org to keep up-to-date with the many activities of our Club.

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Literature Group

Wednesday, September 14, 9:30 am

The Literature Group is probably one of the original interest groups of the Mattapoissett Woman's Club. It was one of the major interest groups when I joined the Club in 1995 and "Literature" probably reflects that the title has been longstanding. Some may think from the Group name that we only read classical literature, but we read both fiction, non-fiction, and some of the latest best-sellers.

We meet on the second Wednesday of the month from September through May at the homes of members who volunteer to host the meetings.

The September meeting will be at the home of Peg Olney, 24 Avenue A, Peases Point on Wednesday, September 14 at 9:30 am. The discussion book is "*The Personal Librarian*" by Marie Benedict. At the meeting we will also be choosing discussion books for the rest of the year and looking for volunteer hosts.

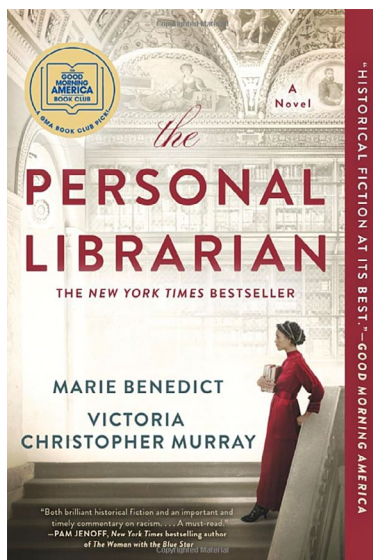
New members are welcome.

Questions? Contact **Peg Olney** for more information at pegolney@verizon.net or call 508-758-2531



Peg Olney

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



A remarkable novel about J. P. Morgan's personal librarian, Belle da Costa Greene, the Black American woman who was forced to hide her true identity and pass as white in order to leave a lasting legacy that enriched our nation, from New York Times bestselling authors Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray.

In her twenties, Belle da Costa Greene is hired by J. P. Morgan to curate a collection of rare manuscripts, books, and artwork for his newly built Pierpont Morgan Library. Belle becomes a fixture in New York City society and one of the most powerful people in the art and book world, known for her impeccable taste and shrewd negotiating for critical works as she helps create a world-class collection.

But Belle has a secret, one she must protect at all costs. She was born not Belle da Costa Greene but Belle Marion Greener. She is the daughter of Richard Greener, the first Black graduate of Harvard and a well-known advocate for equality. Belle's complexion isn't dark because of her alleged Portuguese heritage that lets her pass as white—her complexion is dark because she is African American.

The Personal Librarian tells the story of an extraordinary woman, famous for her intellect, style, and wit, and shares the lengths she must go to—for the protection of her family and her legacy—to preserve her carefully crafted white identity in the racist world in which she lives.

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Woman's Club Walks

September will mark our return to our weekly 'Woman's Club Walks'. Two days a week, Mondays and Wednesdays, walks have been scheduled in various rotating locations to enjoy some exercise, spend time outdoors, and maybe most importantly, enjoy the company and conversations with women of our club for walks that usually last an hour. One of the nice features of these walks is that our leaders of the walks do not require that you commit to the walk until close to the last minute, for schedules change and weather too, especially in New England! In the past we have enjoyed walks in locations such as Great Hill in Marion, Nasketucket State Park, the Mattapoisett-Fairhaven bike path, Marion Village, the New Bedford hurricane barrier and many more. And, a potential walk for this August is one led by Sue Mitchell. In 2020, Sue led a walk from the shore of Antasawamock at the lowest tide of the month of August, to Ram Island. Elaine Botelho and I were the members of the MWC who went with Sue for an exciting walk to this bird preserve island off the coast. If you are potentially interested in this walk this year, please contact **Sue Mitchell** or **Sandy Hering** and we will let you know if it will happen this August and on what date. Love to hear from you if you are even mildly interested.



Social Cocktail Group

For MWC members who are new to this experience, the social cocktail group meets four times during the membership year – twice in the fall/winter and twice in the winter/spring. Reminder invitations are sent to interested members via email. RSVPs are expected and appreciated. No membership is required for this group. Guests bring their beverage/s of choice and an appetizer to share.

Blaise Simpson will be hosting a gathering at her home in mid-late September and the date will be announced in the September issue of the LC. In late November or early December, Robin Lepore will host the last Social Cocktail group gathering of 2022.

Questions? Contact **Cindy Turse** for more information. mahina@turse.org



Bridge Group

September to April, all levels. Sign up sheets will be at September luncheon meeting.

Bridge I First Tuesday of the month, 12:30 pm, at Betty Parker's.

Bridge II Second and fourth Tuesday, 12:30 pm, two tables, players take turns hosting.

Questions? Contact **Betty Parker** for more information.



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group

Wednesday, September 7, 10am

Mattapoissett Public Library Community Room

The Town of Mattapoissett is more beautiful each year because of the Mattapoissett Woman's Club Garden Group and its many dedicated volunteers. Our volunteers plan, design, purchase, prune, and water at several locations around town. Each season brings new plantings in the window boxes at the Post Office and the barrels and urns at the library.



During the summer season, our gardeners fill the window boxes at the Town Beach House, plant new plants in the logo garden at the Town Wharf, and fill the urns at Town Hall. Kudos and thanks to Sharon Doyon, Susan Perkins, and Elaine Botelho for the designs and implementation; and lots of hand-clapping for all of the volunteers who weed and water.

You'll see many of our pink-vested volunteers around town diligently watering the public plantings.

Our first meeting of the "year" will be in-person in the Library Community Room, September 7th, 10:00 AM. MWC members who wish to join the Garden Group are always welcome at our meetings and activities! Dues for the GG are \$10/year.

Springtime daffodils bloom around town in both public and private gardens due to the efforts of the group's members. The Daffodil Project started with the purchase of 1,000 King Alfred daffodil bulbs in 2019. These naturalizing bulbs were planted at: Memorial Rock (Aucoot Road and Route 6); the intersection of Route 6 and Church Street; around the flagpole at the library; in several garden areas at the Town Hall; the Welcome Sign at the entrance to Industrial Park on North Street; the triangle east of the Oxford Creamery; in front of the Lions' information board at Route 6 and North Street; and finally, the traffic island

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GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group, *continued from page 8*

at the intersection of River Road and Acushnet Road. Most recently, bulbs were planted at the entrance to Village Court on Acushnet Road. In 2021, 4,000 bulbs were purchased, packaged and sold for the highly successful Daffodil Scholarship Fundraiser. Some of the bulbs were also planted at the locations listed above.

Again, this year, the “Pistil Packin’ Mommas” will gather to package for sale an undisclosed number of bulbs. Sue Ho-vasse, at Pen and Pendulum, will sell them in her store where she also stocks our Club’s notecards. Plans for other sales include the possibility of a pop-up in a convenient location for our community, plus member and online sales.

The Christmas Greens and Wreath Sale will continue this year! The date is set for December 3rd. Specific details will follow next month.

Questions? Contact **Cindy Turse** for more information.

mahina@turse.org



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Knitting, Crocheting, Needlepoint and More!

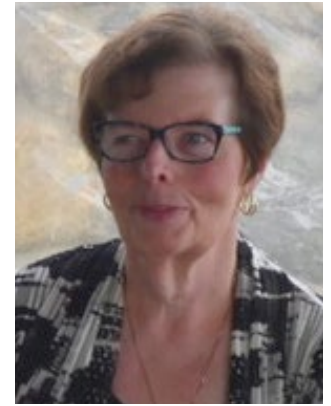
Thursday, September 22, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

When I joined the Mattapoisett Woman's Club, I found a group of interesting, welcoming and active women. My main reason for joining was to learn about gardening. What I discovered was a list of interest groups that I could become part of, but my favorite obsession was not one of the groups currently offered. So I joined the Garden Group and have learned quite a bit from the experts in our club. There is always someone to ask if you have a question.

Then, after I had been a member for a short time, I saw that there was an opportunity for anyone to start a new group with others of similar interest, and that was the start of the Knitting Group. Currently, we knit together on the fourth Thursday of the month for about two hours. The meetings first started at my home, but we have since met at the homes of others in the group.

At one point, a lady who makes jewelry asked if she could join us and, of course, we were delighted to have her. It is so interesting to watch her make such lovely pieces. Now that our club has expanded to other interests, I am hoping that there are others who might want to share their creative work with us. So, if you are someone who has a handicraft that you would like to share, please consider joining our group. I also think that as we expand into other handicrafts, we will need to change the name from Knitting to something more creative. Looking forward to connecting in person at the September meeting.

Questions? Contact **Marie Rottler** for more information about the group at mjrottler@comcast.net or call 508-828-8091



Marie Rottler
Knitting Chair, Website



Above: Just one of Marie's latest knitted pieces.

Below: Caroline Marcoux creating jewelry on Marie's deck 2021.

SUMMER MEMORIES

Quarantining in Paris

What started as an 8-day leisure cruise along the Seine River in France turned into an additional 7 day "extension in isolation" for my Mom (Marianne Mattison) and me. Of course, we were fully vaxed and boosted and eager to use a travel credit from a 2020 cruise that had been cancelled due to the pandemic.

The first 6 days were delightful — great food, great sites in Paris, Versailles, Monet Gardens, country villages, castles, D-day beaches of Normandy. However, things changed dramatically on Day 7 when my Mom tested positive for Covid. Fortunately,

her symptoms were mild... BUT the fun stopped immediately. We stayed in our cabin until arrangements could be made to transfer us to a Paris hotel. Fully masked, we left the ship that afternoon. We began quarantining at the hotel and were instructed to place a "Do Not Disturb" sign on our door. We were not allowed to leave unless going to a doctor or "pharmacie". Our meals were delivered in a paper bag and left outside our door. No one was allowed to enter.

Days went by slowly. At times we watched TV in French just for something to do. We tried to have a "plan" each day to give us something to think about or solve. We discussed living arrangements for Mom, how to re-do our living room at home, financial plans, etc.

It wasn't all that bad though. In fact, July 14 was really fun. It was Bastille Day in France and although we were not allowed to join in any festivities, we saw them on French TV. We watched a huge military parade march down the Champs-Elysees. We saw President Macron deliver a speech (in French, of course). And we saw the actual streaks from the jets that did a flyover the city.

Later that day, we watched cyclists in the Tour de France race through the French Alps. The evening was topped off with a terrific outdoor band concert in the park. At 11 pm, we watched the most impressive fireworks display I have ever seen shot from the Eiffel Tower.

Had we not "involuntarily extended" our trip - we would have missed it. (I think this was a preview for the upcoming 2024 summer Olympics which will be held in Paris.)

Would we do it again? Not sure.....but it does give us a story to tell. C'est la vie!

~ Sue Mitchell



SUMMER MEMORIES

Christmas Eve In July

It is said “traditions die hard”— especially in Italian families. For two years, Covid interrupted our gathering and the Christmas Eve traditional meal: the feast of the seven fishes.

This July, my deceased brother’s son and two daughters decided to revive the tradition and brought together 18 of us to enjoy Christmas Eve’s menu of stuffed claims, fried calamari, linguine with lobster sauce, fried smelts, bacala salad, and baked stuffed shrimp and scallops, along with lemon-broccoli and a huge garden salad. The feast was topped off with Italian cookies and a huge Buche De Noel, baked by my nephew who owns Scapicchio’s Bakery in Yarmouth. (Matthew had generously supplied our Club’s pie makers with 50 pie tins and boxes at cost.)

Needless to say, this gathering fed the soul of family as well as our stomachs. We gave Santa a pass as his reindeer were off-duty for the summer.

~ Elaine Grant



Robert and Elaine Grant enjoying Christmas in July

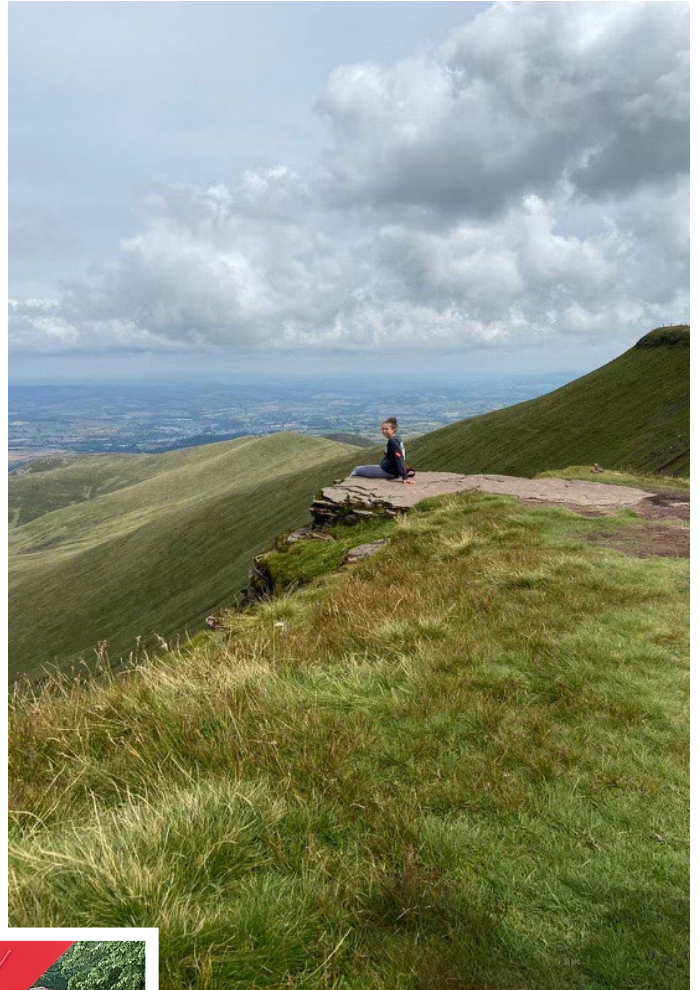


SUMMER MEMORIES

College Graduation Brings Family to Wales

On July 14 I flew to Wales with my daughter, Melissa, and her family for her daughter, Kiki's, college graduation. Melissa rented a beautiful old stone farmhouse in the country in Cardiff. Our only neighbors were sheep. We had an awesome week of exploring many of the small towns, eating lots of Welsh food, drinking beer in the pubs and enjoying the pretty countryside. The warm weather allowed us to be out of doors every day. Welsh people in this area were very friendly, and many gave us suggestions as to where to go and things to see. We had a handsome driver by the name of Tim, Melissa's husband. He was driving a large van, and at times the one lane roads were a challenge. But, I would highly recommend him! Four of us left after a week. Melissa, Tim and Kiki stayed for a second week to enjoy the west coast and hills of Wales. A trip enjoyed by all!

~ Judy Sullivan



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2024 Marianne Hickey

Recruitment & Retention

Carole Clifford

Linda Clifford

Mary O'Keefe

Marianne Hickey

Christine Voss

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

Walking Group

Sandy Hering

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