



LADIES CHOICE

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Newsletter

www.MattapoissettWomansClub.org

November 2022
VOLUME LXI No. 4

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Club Members,

November is the month of gratitude, with my favorite holiday as the centerpiece. While the name of this holiday, Thanksgiving, suggests "giving," which to me means giving to others, gratitude is also about appreciating. I love to pause and appreciate the people in my life as one of the most important things to be grateful for.

As many of you may know, I couldn't attend the October Woman's Club meeting as my second grandchild was born on the 14th. I'm thankful that Kate Brown, our Vice President, agreed that she would run the meeting and I'm appreciative of all the well wishes from club members about the birth of Maggie. And of course, I haven't forgotten the words of Past President Pat McCarthy who, when I visited her last May and told her of my conflict in October, said, "Sandy, as important as the Woman's Club is, family comes first."

This is the Woman's Club that I love and the many members whom I appreciate having as a part of my life. It's a group of individuals who understands that we each have our abilities and our limitations. That when one of us needs help, we pitch in. And when any of us need assistance, we can ask. Together we accomplish so much. Together we help one another, and together we help many others.

Thank you all for being here, for being a part of the community of the Woman's Club and our larger community of the world.

Happy Thanksgiving to all.

Best wishes,
Sandra Hering
MWC President



Sandra Hering
President, MWC



Sandra and her granddaughter

Woman's Club Luncheon Meeting

Thursday, November 17
11:00am at Reynard Hall,
Mattapoissett
Congregational Church

Guest Speaker:
Jennifer Jones,
Director of the
Mattapoissett Free
Public Library



Mattapoissett Free
Public Library

Mark your calendars!

Garden Group

Wednesday,
November 2
10:00am

Literature Group

Wednesday,
November 9
9:30am

Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, November 10
10:00am

Bridge Group

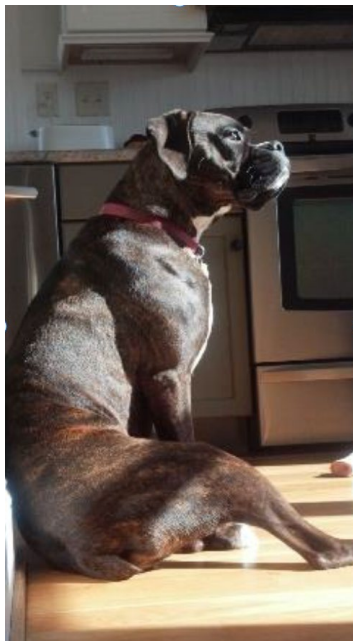
Tuesday, November 8 & 22
1:00pm

HOW DID I GET TO THE MWC?

Me and You and a Dog Named Boo is a song written by Lobo. But for the sake of storytelling will be the answer to the question, who am I? I am Bobbi Miller. Dave is my husband. Boo is a 10 ½ year old Boxer that has been with us since she was a puppy.

I have two great loves in my life here in Mattapoisett – Dave and Boo. The three of us make a great team. Just like in the song, we have traveled together quite a bit. These days we are pretty settled off North Street very close to the Mattapoisett/Rochester town line. It is very peaceful here.

We moved to Mattapoisett in November 2019. My life, like many others', was disrupted shortly thereafter. Dave, Boo and I are now trying to bring as much routine back into our lives as the true scare of COVID seems to have passed. We chose Mattapoisett because there was an available house; that is the truth. We were



somewhat clueless, only knowing a little bit about the area, mainly Wareham, since Dave's son Brian is a graduate of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. Brian and his children live in Newton, and prior to moving here we were living in a small West Virginia town named Kearneysville. When the time came to buy a house, few in the whole Buzzard's Bay area were available and one was the house where Dave, Boo and I now live. We bought it on the spot.

I didn't exactly spell it out in the previous paragraph, but the reason Dave and I and Boo moved to Mattapoisett is because we wanted to be closer to Brian and his adorable children, Ava and Keshav. The Boston area is too busy for us, and we are very happy we followed our instincts and chose this area for this time in our lives. I thank God for helping us, leading us to such a lovely place.

~ Bobbi Miller



Executive Board Meeting at the Mattapoisett Free Public Library

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10 • 10:00AM

MWC News & Information

GIFTS TO GIVE NEW AMAZON WISH LIST TO HELP WITH MUCH NEEDED ITEMS!

Gifts to Give now has their wishlist on Amazon. You can see what is currently needed most by visiting the GtG website and selecting the [**Shop Now button on the Donate page!**](#)

Shop, pay and have everything shipped directly to GtG. If you don't shop on Amazon, you can shop and donate at the next luncheon.

Winter jackets and coats are needed. Details about the collection site and time are coming soon.

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FALL DAFFODIL FUNDRAISER

Our Club is coming close to the end of this year's daffodil fundraiser. We thank all who bought and sold daffodils and especially Sue Hovasse who requested that we allow her sell them in her shop, Pen & Pendulum. Sue also sells our notecards and supports the Mattapoisett Woman's Club on many of our fundraisers.

We started with more than 220 bags of bulbs, and have thirty bags left for sale at the time this article is being written. The Garden Group has appropriated 100 bulbs for planting in our public areas – locations still to be determined.

Daffodils can be planted from now until the end of the month – and apparently, if they are forgotten in your basement, they can be planted next spring. Please continue your efforts to sell the remaining bulbs – they are wonderful gifts to brighten an area next spring.



WINTER SOCIAL

After conducting an entirely non-random poll at the last meeting, interest seems to favor having a social in January, rather than before the holidays. So, we'll miss the Snow Birds but we hardier types will have something to look forward to.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, January 21, 2023, for our Winter Social Gathering from 5PM - 7PM at Robin Lepore's home. Spouses and partners welcome. Bring some munchies if you feel inspired and a beverage of your choice.



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COMING IN JANUARY: MEMBER BOOK SWAP!

Have a favorite book that you have read and wish to bring to our January meeting to give to another club member? Save it for our January meeting where we invite all to bring up to 2 books and find up to 2 books to take home. More details to come.

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NOVEMBER 17th LUNCHEON TEA COMMITTEE

Hostess: Linda Clifford

Esther Callum, Joy Conwell, Kathleen Sites Flaherty, Aina Holden, Patricia King, Anne Layton, Eileen Marum, Alice Openshaw, Barbara Poznysz, and Candee Seeley.

Please refer to page 48 of the Club's handbook for duties and responsibilities.



MWC Annual Holiday Party ~ December 15

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club Annual Holiday Party will be held at the Wamsutta Club in New Bedford, on Thursday, December 15, 2022.

The cost is \$30. Arrival time is 11:30AM with lunch to be served at Noon.

The meal includes house salad, mashed potatoes, vegetable, and apple crisp with ice cream. The entree choices are:

1. Baked Cod
2. Chicken Marsala
3. Black Diamond Beef Tips
4. Pasta Primavera

Payment may be made at November luncheon OR

send the form below along with a check for \$30

made payable to Mattapoisett Woman's Club to Lois Ennis OR

[Sign up online at www.mattapoisettwomansclub.org/2022-annual-holiday-party](http://www.mattapoisettwomansclub.org/2022-annual-holiday-party)

Reservation deadline is December 8.

Annual Holiday Luncheon Reservation Form

Please choose one:

Baked Cod

Black Diamond Beef Tips

Chicken Marsala

Pasta Primavera

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Daffodil Bulbs Science Program for Center and Old Hammondtown Schools

The Mattapoissett Land Trust Education Committee collaborates with the Mattapoissett Woman's Club to support their fundraising efforts to provide scholarships. The Land Trust purchased 400 bulbs from the Woman's Club Garden Group to use as living materials for 3rd and 5th grade science programs.

"The 3rd grade uses the daffodils to learn about the structure and function of plant parts. We also investigate how environmental conditions and genetics impact the growth of the plant over time. We plant some of the bulbs in different locations around the school and we journal their growth in the spring. Once they bloom the students learn all about the flower parts and how pollinators help aid plants. All this while helping our school grounds look nicer," said Ben Squire, Science Specialist. The same process is used in 5th grade, taking the bulbs as tools for analyzing and interpreting the life cycle of the growth of the flower and planting the bulbs in Old Hammondtown's courtyard and around the school. This is the second year that MLT and MWC have collaborated on this science program.

~ Ellen Flynn, MWC Member and Director & Chair of the Education Committee, Mattapoissett Land Trust



The Foreign Policy Association's 2023 Great Decisions Program

This year the Mattapoissett Woman's Club will again offer The Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions Program in person at the Mattapoissett Library, 7 Barstow Street, in the community room, and on Zoom.

The discussion group covers eight consecutive presentations on Wednesdays beginning January 18, 2023 ending March 8, 2023 from 1:00PM-3:00PM.

Great Decisions is "America's largest discussion group on world and domestic affairs."

Each year during our meetings we find the topics are meaningful, current, and offer us ways to research, give our opinions and seek out experts on each issue.

We often have invited guests who share with us their specialty in the area of the topic, and during our discussions we wish that there was more time

to investigate and discover new ideas.

The topics for 2023 are the following:

Energy Geopolitics	Politics in Latin America
War Crimes	Global Famine
China and the U.S.	Iran at a Crossroads
Economic Warfare	Climate Migration

To register please send a check in the amount of \$35.00 to Mattapoissett Woman's Club, P.O. Box 1444, Mattapoissett, MA, 02739. Please write Great Decisions in the memo.

Also on a separate paper please enclose in print, your name, address, phone number, plus cell number and your email address.

Thank you for your interest in our civic community outreach of our organization.

~ Ellen Flynn

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Literature Group

Wednesday, November 9, 9:30 am

The November meeting of the Literature Group will be on Wednesday, November 9, 9:30 am, at the home of Marianne Hickey, 52 County Road, Unit 2. The book we will be discussing is *"This is Happiness"* by Niall Williams. Please try to carpool if at all possible because parking at the Village condos is limited. Available spaces are around the corner from Marianne's unit, by the pool. Also, **please call or email Marianne** if you are coming to the meeting so that she can plan for enough seating. **617-413-9126, marianneshickey@gmail.com**

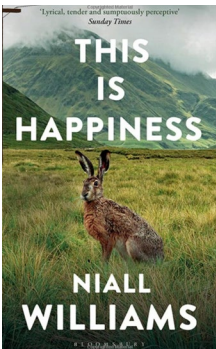
We look forward to seeing everyone there.

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 profound and enchanting new novel from Booker Prize-longlisted author Niall Williams about the loves of our lives and the joys of reminiscing.

You don't see rain stop, but you sense it. You sense something has changed in the frequency you've been living and you hear the quietness you thought was silence get quieter still, and you raise your head so your eyes can make sense of what your ears have already told you, which at first is only: something has changed.

The rain is stopping. Nobody in the small, forgotten village of Faha remembers when it started; rain on the western seaboard was a condition of living. Now--just as Father Coffey proclaims the coming of electricity--it is stopping. Seventeen-year-old Noel Crowe is standing outside his grandparents' house shortly after the rain has stopped when he encounters Christy for the first time. Though he can't explain it, Noel knows right then: something has changed.

*Niall Williams' latest novel is an intricately observed portrait of a community, its idiosyncrasies and its traditions, its paradoxes and its inanities, its failures and its triumphs. Luminous and otherworldly, and yet anchored with deep-running roots into the earthy and the everyday, *This Is Happiness* is about stories as the very stuff of life: the ways they make the texture and matter of our world, and the ways they write and rewrite us.*



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|----------|--|
| December | "On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous" by Ocean Vuong |
| January | "Beneath a Scarlet Sky" by Mark Sullivan |
| February | "People of the Book" by Geraldine Brooks |
| March | "The Wedding Veil" by Kristy Woodson Harney |
| April | "The Last White Man" by Mohsin Hamid |

Bridge Group

The Bridge group finally started in October with games at Carol Atkinson's and Ann Butler's. Despite being a bit rusty at scoring, all enjoyed getting together again, chatting and having fun. Winning isn't everything! November hostesses are Betty Ann Cannell and Elaine Grant. Consider being a sub if you are interested. All levels of bridge playing are welcome. Questions? Contact **Jackie Slade** for more information.



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Woman's Club Walks

Fridays 10:00 am

Friday, October 21st was a beautiful Fall day with the sun brightly shining and the temperature hovering close to 70 degrees.

Sue Mitchell, Elaine Botelho, Cindy Turse, Robin Lepore, Mary Dermody, Barbara Van Inwegen, Barbara Smith and I joined leader Erin Burlinson for our weekly Mattapoisett Woman's Club Walk which on this day was at the Nasketucket Bay State Reservation located off Brandt Island Road in Mattapoisett.

There are a number of trails in the park and we started off on the Bridle Trail and then took the Holly Trail down to the seashore. Along the way, we stopped to collect items such as bark and seashells for the Garden Group to use to decorate wreaths for the 3rd Annual Greens Sale in December. After awhile we were hauling quite a few items, including large pieces of bark, a good-size horse-shoe crab shell and a white birch log which I used as a walking stick!

The shoreline was so beautiful that we decided to walk along the water's edge until we found a path to lead us back to the parking lot. At one point we came across a nice young man sunning himself, and we asked if he knew of a path close by that would get us back to our vehicles. He said that he thought there was one just a little farther along the shoreline. After walking a while longer and not seeing a clearly marked path, we decided to double back to where the young man was sitting, and took what looked like somewhat of a path behind him. Well, this route wasn't clearly marked and was overgrown with lots of trees and bushes, so we stuck close together and tread very carefully, eventually making it back to the Bridle Trail path.

After much joking and laughing, we reached the parking lot, but there was one more travail to overcome. Barb Van Inwegen couldn't find her keys! Her car was unlocked and she hoped that perhaps they had fallen out of her pocket before she got out of the car. Just as she began searching, that nice young man, who had been enjoying the sun, approached us with keys in hand, asking if anyone had lost them. Needless to say, we were all overjoyed, and that was the end to a very fun day of walking, talking, foraging and laughing!

~ Sherry Hoines



MWC members and friends are always welcome to join us as we walk, chat, and enjoy each other's company. Contact Erin Burlinson for more information on how to join us.

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group

Wednesday, November 2, 10am

Mattapoissett Public Library Community Room

Our 3rd Annual Wreath & Greens Sale will be December 3rd, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM, in the parking lot between Ying Dynasty and Harriet's Catering (rain date - December 4th).

The next Garden Group meeting will be November 2nd from 10AM - 12PM, in the Community Room of the Mattapoissett Library. This is a "makers' meeting" where we'll be creating and packaging ornaments, making bows, gluing shells on sticks to use in arrangements, and enjoying each other's company - all in preparation for our December Pop-Up.

The Garden Group elves will be busy in Sherry Hoines' barn between November 27th and December 2nd creating the beautiful wreaths, swags, centerpieces, and ornaments that will be for sale. All MWC members are invited to donate ribbons, wreath bows, small ornaments, and low waterproof containers for centerpieces, plus larger containers for front steps, porches and cemeteries. You can also help collect items from this list - horseshoe crab shells, interesting shells, curly willow, Harry Lauder's walking stick, pinecones, seed pods, acorns, hops, feathers, dried grasses, seeds, nuts, twigs, bark, and twigs with lichen. Please contact Cindy Turse for pick-up.

The GG is open to all Mattapoissett Woman's Club members. If you would like to join the Garden Group, please contact **Cindy Turse** mahina@turse.org or Karen Brackett. Dues are \$10/year.



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Knitting

No meetings November or December 2022

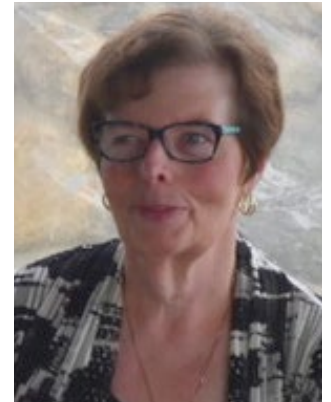
Questions? Contact Marie Rottler for more information about the group at mjrotter@comcast.net or call 508-828-8091.

After the heat of the summer months, I thought that the changing of season into fall would not be as pretty this year. But as I have driven around this month, the color has been quite beautiful. It has been inspiring me to start to check out projects and yarn colors to inspire my knitting during the winter months. With that in mind I did some online shopping with one of my favorite yarn companies - Purl Soho.

Purl Soho used to have a shop in New York City. In fact, we tried to go there during a trip earlier this year. We found the shop, but it was not open. When I arrived home I reached out to the company, to see if there was a date that the shop would reopen. I was told they had decided not to reopen in the New York location, but to only continue with their online business, which is doing very well. All of this made me remember that shopping has certainly changed during the past couple of years. Much of that is now online. Online shopping is fine and even better for many things. But when purchasing yarn, I miss touching the yarn for texture and seeing the actual color in front of me.

Living in Massachusetts provides us a unique place to purchase yarn and anything knitting if we go to Webs, located in Northampton Massachusetts. It is the largest yarn store in the US. Every so often, my husband and I have taken a trip there. Northampton is a quaint college town with several things to see and do. There is also a local yarn shop that I have gone to there. It might be a nice trip to look forward to in the spring. But for now, I will continue to work at using my stash of yarn, which will probably last quite some time.

~ Marie Rottler



Marie Rottler

Knitting Chair, Website

A Perfect Stranger

It was not a dark and stormy night. There was no lightening, thunder or other omens of impending doom. The sun was shining, no clouds in the sky – just another beautiful fall day in October. Nine women from the Woman’s Club met at Nasketucket State Park for a Friday walk. I locked the car and put the key in my vest pocket. When everyone arrived we headed out on the Bridle Path, turned left at the Holly Path and chatted as we headed toward the water (somewhere in the distance – less than a mile...). Along the way we kept our eyes peeled for treasures to collect and drop off at Sue Perkin’s house for Sue and Sharon to turn into fabulous decorations to sell on December 3rd.



Sue Mitchell found a four-foot-long piece of bark and then another shorter one. Cindy found a walking stick. When we reached the shoreline we found a large selection of shells to choose from – scallops, clams and lady slippers. Elaine B. and I picked up a bagful. It was getting pretty warm, so I took off my fleece vest and zipped it around my waist.

Erin was going to lead us back to the parking lot by a path she remembered. But when we got to the path, the way was blocked by a guy sunbathing (well, he had his shirt, socks and shoes off and he was stretched out on the ground looking at his phone). So Erin continued past him to see where the next path might come out. We must have walked for another ¼ mile or so, but then Sue M. and Erin thought we should go back, disturb the guy and use that path he was sort of blocking. Back we went, they made our excuses, he kindly moved out of the way, and we proceeded via wooded path and boardwalks over damp areas.



We finally made it to the lot and dispersed to our cars. I stood next to my car and pressed the handle. Nothing happened; the key was in my vest pocket. I felt around and the vest was surprisingly light. No pocket was hanging down with the weight of the car key. Our car has a code panel on the driver’s door, so I could open the door. I put down my bag of “found treasures”, searched in every pocket on me and the awful truth struck me -- I had dropped the car key somewhere on our 2-hour journey. I thought I’d never find it. I slumped on the car seat and was debating what to do when out from the path came the sun-bathing guy holding up a set of car keys and yelling: “Do these belong to one of you?”

On Friday, October 21st I was the luckiest person in Mattapoissett all due to a perfect stranger.

~ Barb Van Inwegin

Pumpkins With Personality

Every year I carve just 4 pumpkins for the kids when they trick or treat. My husband also carves 4. I pick what I want for pictures, but I also try to use one idea that is currently popular with children. One year I did some Harry Potter themed pumpkins, pictures from the "Alice in Wonderland" book, Sponge Bob, teletubbies, the Frozen girls.

Here are some pumpkins I carved a few years ago. I used to carve for the Roger Williams Park Zoo people. A very good friend and her husband started that show in Oxford, MA, then they moved it to RI, and I still carved for them; I carved for them for 10 years in a row. Many of my pumpkins had calligraphy, introducing different sections of the show. That was easier using the big pumpkins called Big Max, instead of the Howden pumpkins which are the thick-skinned farm stand variety. Now I just carve for the neighborhood children. Last year, we had 121 "spooks and goblins" trick or treating here. What fun!

We cut the bottoms out of the pumpkins and put a light bulb in there. Even using a candle, cutting out the bottom keeps the pumpkin from rotting faster and you don't get burned, reaching down into the pumpkin.

~ Caroline Marcoux



The Mattapoisett Woman's Club

3rd Annual Holiday Greens Sale

Saturday, December 3rd, 9:00 - 1:00 (rain date 12/4)



A Pop-Up Event

Featuring

Decorated Fresh Wreaths, Swags &

Centerpieces

Bundled Evergreens & Holly Branches

Ornaments & Notecards

20-22 County Road/Route 6

Parking lot between Ying Dynasty & Harriet's Catering

Cash, Checks, Credit Cards

Salt Marshes and Their Secrets

Salt marshes have always been a part of coastal communities, and as a coastal community, Mattapoissett has an abundance of them. But where does the salt come from? I asked an expert; their salt comes from the seawater that flows in with the tides. The marsh ground is composed of fine, muddy sediment and decomposing plant matter known as peat. And by filtering runoff and excess nutrients, salt marshes help maintain water quality in our coastal bays, sounds, and estuaries.

Beginning soon Ladies Choice will showcase a special column by Mattapoissett resident, Elizabeth Leidhold, an expert on natural resources and environmental science, and executive director of the Marion Museum of Natural History. Elizabeth has graciously volunteered to share her knowledge and program offerings related to our natural habitat that we interact with every day.

Elizabeth was raised in Wilton Connecticut, and that proximity to New York City provided her with easy access to the American Museum of Natural History. Although she started college as a Fine Arts major, Elizabeth soon changed majors setting her sights on Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, and no surprise, Elizabeth worked part-time sampling soils and gathering plant information along the salt marshes of coastal Connecticut.

Elizabeth has a BS degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Science from UConn Storrs and she did graduate coursework in Soils and Education at UMass Amherst and Lesley University.

She teaches a variety of environmental topics to both children and adults and especially enjoys working with the public to explore the SouthCoast's natural surroundings. Elizabeth has volunteered with the Sierra Club and served on the board of the Saugatuck Valley Audubon Society and the Mattapoissett Lands Trust.

With a new focus on climate change, and its profound impact on our vulnerable coastal areas, we believe now is the time to learn more and work together to save our natural environment, and so, we warmly welcome Elizabeth and look forward to her new environmental column in Ladies Choice.

~ Eileen Marum



Garden Tour – 2023

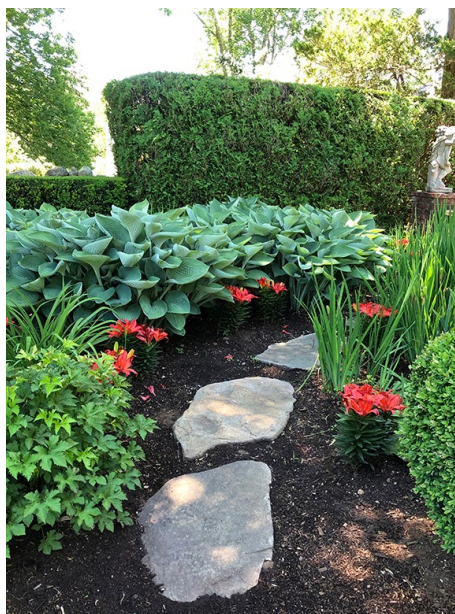
Yes, there is a garden tour scheduled for June 24, 2023!

Kathy McAuliffe is still accepting recommendations for more gardens. Do you have one in your neighborhood? Have you driven or walked past one that you'd like to visit? Or do you want to volunteer your garden? Please get in touch with Kathy for the details!

Kathy McAuliffe

508.758.8325

kathymcauliffe7@gmail.com



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Great Decisions

Ellen Flynn

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2023 Cindy Turse

2024 Marianne Hickey

Recruitment & Retention

Carole Clifford

Linda Clifford

Marianne Hickey

Christine Voss

Social Activities

Bridge

Jackie Slade

Knitting

Marie Rottler

Literature Group

Peg Olney

Social Cocktail Group

Cindy Turse

Welcome

New Members

Marianne Hickey

Walking Group

Sandra Hering

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



JOIN NOW!

