



LADIES CHOICE

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Newsletter

www.MattapoissettWomansClub.org

March 2023
VOLUME LXI No. 8

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Club Members,

March into springtime, a welcome sound at this time of year! So much to look forward to this month, with a program on the 16th that features our continuing education scholarship awardee from two years ago, a Garden Group food tasting on the 22nd as well as our Literature, Bridge, Walking and Knitting groups meeting as always.

Morgan Browning, our speaker who is also a club member, has been pursuing her advanced degree in Psychology, a field that has been in the news so much lately. We've been hearing about the affects of the pandemic on students, the negative influence that social media has on our youth, particularly on young women. A resident of Mattapoissett, Morgan will be talking about what she sees on the South Coast as it pertains to her field of study and give us much to think about as we pursue our other March task, voting on who will receive our annual donations.



Sandra Hering
President, MWC

Arriving in your emails soon after this newsletter will be the suggested list of organizations that our fundraising efforts allow us to award with donations. Please review this list and let me know your thoughts, either by replying to my email or calling me at 508-340-9540. As we have 109 members on this email list of members, please do not reply all, thus keeping your vote private between you and me. I will represent your votes to our Board of Directors, who have the final say in which donations will be put on the ballot for your final vote at the meeting on the 16th.

These donations, in addition to the three annual scholarships that the Mattapoissett Woman's Club awards each year, are our gifts to our town and surrounding communities. Our fundraising activities have been very successful, even during the pandemic and have allowed us to increase the size of the continuing education scholarship as well as the donations. Thank you for helping us with our fundraising efforts, which have been FUN as well as successful.

Best wishes,
Sandra Hering
MWC President



Mark your calendars!

Garden Group

Wednesday, March 22
10:00 am

Literature Group

Wednesday, March 8
9:30 am

Bridge Group

Tuesday, March 14 & 28
1:00 pm

Executive Board Meeting

Thursday, March 9
10:00 am

MWC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

By Mary O'Keefe

[**VOLUNTEER:** a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task.]

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club is reaching out to many different entities for volunteering opportunities in our community. Below are a few with more in upcoming Ladies Choice issues. Please contact Mary O'Keefe if you're currently volunteering, or have in the past, we'd love to hear of your experience.

Rotch Jones Duff House

396 County Street, New Bedford 02740

Call 508-997-1401 for further details.

There are four active volunteer opportunities with flexible hours for you garden lovers.

1. **Garden Go-fers:** Clean up, dead-heading, pruning and basic maintenance of boxwood and rose gardens and award-winning Woodlands Walk. All under the supervision of knowledgeable staff.
2. **Visitor Service Assistants:** They are the main greeters stationed at the entrance of the museum's shop. They also assist the staff by answering the phone line.
3. **Administrative Assistant:** Help the RJD staff with research, correspondence, computer, office supplies, paperwork processing, proofreading, call and market research.
4. **Event Assistant:** Help staff in the execution of educational programming and events for the public, including sales, simple food service, set up and clean up and basic event coordination for 20 to 200 people.

The Zeiterion Theater

684 Purchase Street, New Bedford, MA

Call 508-994-2900 for further details.

If you love the performing arts, another volunteer opportunity is ushering at the Zeiterion Theater, which fits the bill. Training is usually during the spring and summer months. A tie and vest are provided to complete your uniform of black pants and white blouse. You get to sign up for the shows that fit into your schedule and interests. Also offered are several children's shows during the school year.

It is a really nice group of men and women. They socialize at Christmas and at a spring banquet. Several MWC members are, or have been, ushers. I loved it!

The Z is celebrating its 100th birthday, starting out as a venue for vaudeville acts, then silent movies accompanied by the organ which still is in use, then movies with sound and theater for the performing arts.

Mattapoisett Public Health

Call 508-758-4118 for further details.

Emily Field, our Public Health Nurse, needs helping hands from time to time, especially during vaccination periods, such as flu and Covid. If you feel your Clara Barton vibes, consider contacting her at 508-758-4118 to find out more.

A CORI review and an Oath of Confidentiality is required.

HOW DID I GET TO THE MWC?

My name is Gail Roberts, the new Historian for the Woman's Club. I was asked to introduce myself for the March newsletter.

I grew up in Mattapoisett, and went to Center School, and Old Rochester Regional High School (Class of 1972). My mother, Marion Roberts, and my grandmother, Minnie Tinkham, were members of the Woman's Club, so it seemed natural to me to join after I retired.

Growing up in Mattapoisett was both fun and claustrophobic. The fun was from my friends, riding my bike around town (mostly to the library), and sailing with my brother or with friends. As I became a teenager, it was claustrophobic because,

being the grandchild of Minnie Tinkham meant that everyone knew my business, and that I could get away with nothing. After I received my Bachelor's degree from Southeastern Mass. University (now UMass Dartmouth), I moved to the Big City: Philadelphia. I earned my Master's degree in Library Science from Drexel University, then went to work for the Free Library of Philadelphia as a Children's Librarian. The one problem with living in the Big City was that no one knew my business! I made many friends there, both from the folk scene and the library world. I am still in contact with several of my Philly friends. I moved back to Massachusetts in 1982, working as Children's Librarian in the Brookline Public Library. In 1984, I married Rob Price (ORR Class of 1974), and we moved to my grandmother's house in the Tinkhamtown section of Mattapoisett. In 1985, we welcomed our daughter, Charlotte (ORR Class of 2004), who is the 7th generation of my mother's family to live in our house. By then, I was working as Children's Librarian at the Elizabeth Taber Library in Marion, a much shorter commute, and right next door to my daughter's preschool at Sippican School. In 1988, I became Children's Librarian at the New Bedford Free Public Library, and, in 2006, became the Director of the Joseph H. Plumb Memorial Library in Rochester. I retired in 2022.

My hobbies are knitting, playing the piano (which I started doing at age 12; I'd be a better player if I actually practiced!); fixing things in my drafty 200+ -year old house; hiking around Cold River Camp in Chatham, NH; singing in the New Bedford Harbor Sea Chanty Chorus; and reading, mainly Science Fiction. Being involved in the SF world has brought Rob and me to many places, attending SF conferences in Boston, Dublin, Kansas City, Montreal, and, (we hope) Glasgow in 2024. Ask me about the time we nearly got thrown out of a party in Montreal with George R. R. Martin ("Game of Thrones" author), or about having fish and chips with Jane Yolen at her summer place in St. Andrews, Scotland. Or how we became part of a Netflix series "Love, Death, and Robots" thanks to our dear friend, author Michael Swanwick. We are a family of librarians (me, my daughter at Carnegie Mellon, a cousin-in-law at Elizabeth Taber Library) and musicians (me, my brother Mark, my sister-in-law, my daughter, my son-in-law, a cousin, my nephew). With our first grandchild expected to arrive in mid-June, we are looking at a new chapter in our lives.

~ Gail Roberts





Marion Natural History Museum

—NATURALLY CURIOUS—

Marion Museum of Natural History Upcoming Programs

Marion Museum of Natural History is offering interesting, thought-provoking, educational programs this winter.

8 Spring Street, Marion, MA

508-748-2098 info@marionmuseum.org

Hours: Wednesday 12:00 - 4:00 pm Friday 12:00 - 2:00 pm

“Naturally” Artistic - Exploring the synergy of nature and art.

March 22, 2023 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Plan to roll up your sleeves, have fun and get creative with Karen Alves, a lifelong artist and MNHM Board Member.

Ms. Alves taught at Bridgewater State University for 16 years where her curriculum and teaching style helped hundreds of students create new career paths. She also taught at Tabor Academy and in small groups



Please go online to register for this program: marionmuseum.org/event/naturally-artistic-for-adults

Old Growth Forests of Massachusetts

March 31, 2023 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

David Orwig, senior ecologist and Forest Ecologist with Harvard Forest will be sharing his research into the presence of old-growth forests in our state. The talk will include a broad discussion of old-growth forests in Massachusetts - What are they? Where are they? And What can they tell us? Through pictures and data from many old-growth forests in the state, many aspects of why these rare forest gems are so special will be described along with the many threats they face. Partial funding for this program has been provided by the Marion Cultural Council. Suggested donation to the museum – \$10.00/person.



Photograph is a picture of old-growth hemlock from Mohawk trail state forest.

Please go online to register for this program:

marionmuseum.org/event/old-growth-forests-of-massachusetts

MWC News & Information

REMINDER:

START YOUR SPRING CLEANING EARLY

This year's TAG SALE will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2023 (raindate May 7) from 9:00am -12:00pm at the parking lot next to Ying Dynasty. All proceeds will benefit the Scholarship Fund as well as other local charitable organizations supported by the Club.

Items needed:

- Kitchen and housewares
- Outdoor camping and sports equipment
- Books (limit 10)
- Collectibles
- Gardening tools
- Pots
- Tools
- Beach chairs and small rafts as well as sand toys
- Framed art prints
- There will be a Christmas Decor table.

All items should be clean, in good condition and priced by you. Items will be accepted from MWC members only. MWC reserves the right to refuse unsuitable items. All unsold items, unless specified by you, will be donated.

If you will be providing items, do you need a table and will you manage that table during the sale?

Volunteers will be needed for various tasks during the sale and sign-up sheets will be available at the monthly meetings.

Questions/concerns? Contact Linda Clifford at 508-758-5306 or tilly_ralph@hotmail.com.

~ Linda Clifford

Executive Board Meeting
at the Mattapoissett Free Public Library
THURSDAY, MARCH 9 • 10:00 AM



SPRING COCKTAIL SOCIAL GATHERING

Spring Cocktail Social Gathering will be held on Sunday, May 21 from 5 - 7 pm at the home of Jim and Myra Hart, 115 North Street, 508-758-4703, Myralhart@gmail.com

Guests bring their beverage of choice and an appetizer to share. All MWC members and their guests are welcome to attend.

For this event, RSVP directly to Myra. Her contact information is above. There will also be sign up sheets at the upcoming monthly meetings.

MARCH 16 TEA COMMITTEE

The March 16th Tea Committee is as follows:

Hostess: Janet Liljedahl

Committee: Liz Ackerman, Nicole Dowling, Ellen Flynn, Nancy Holland, Nancy Keyes, Caroline Marcoux, Sue Mitchell, Kathy Saunders, Peg Olney, Melissa Soule, Judy Sullivan, Ann Tisdale, Cindy Turse

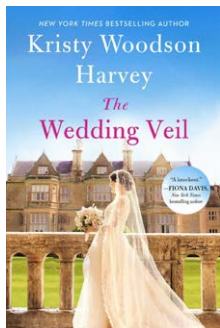
Please refer to page 48 in your MWC handbook for duties. If you are unable to assist it is your responsibility to get a substitute or make a \$10 donation.

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Literature Group

Wednesday, March 8 9:30 am

The March meeting of the Literature Group will be on the second Wednesday, March 8, 9:30 am, at the home of Kate Brown, 9 Abby Lane. The book we will be discussing is *"The Wedding Veil"* by Kristy Woodson Harvey. We look forward to seeing everyone there and having another lively discussion. Plans are underway for a group trip for our meeting in May. Details will be available at the meeting. Questions? Contact **Peg Olney** for more information at pegolney@verizon.net or call 508-758-2531.



Four women. One family heirloom. A secret connection that will change their lives—and history as they know it.

Present Day: Julia Baxter's wedding veil, bequeathed to her great-grandmother by a mysterious woman on a train in the 1930s, has passed through generations of her family as a symbol of a happy marriage.

But on the morning of her wedding day, something tells her that even the veil's good luck isn't enough to make her marriage last forever. Overwhelmed and panicked, she escapes to the Virgin Islands to clear her head. Meanwhile, her grandmother Babs is also feeling shaken. Still grieving the death of her beloved husband, she decides to move out of the house they once shared and into a retirement community. Though she hopes it's a new beginning, she does not expect to run into an old flame, dredging up the same complicated emotions she felt a lifetime ago.

1914: Socialite Edith Vanderbilt is struggling to manage the luxurious Biltmore Estate after the untimely death of her cherished husband. With 250 rooms to oversee and an entire village dependent on her family to stay afloat, Edith is determined to uphold the Vanderbilt legacy—and prepare her free-spirited daughter Cornelia to inherit it—in spite of her family's deteriorating financial situation. But Cornelia has dreams of her own. Asheville, North Carolina has always been her safe haven away from the prying eyes of the press, but as she explores more of the rapidly changing world around her, she's torn between upholding tradition and pursuing the exciting future that lies beyond Biltmore's gilded gates.

In the vein of Therese Anne Fowler's A Well-Behaved Woman and Jennifer Robson's The Gown, The Wedding Veil brings to vivid life a group of remarkable women forging their own paths—and explores the mystery of a national heirloom lost to time.



Peg Olney

*Literature Group Chair,
Ladies Choice Publisher
1998 - 2018
& Current Editor*



April *"The Last White Man"* by Mohsin Hamid

Bridge Group

Tuesday, March 14 & 28, 1:00pm

The Bridge group is looking forward to games at Betty Ann Canell's on March 14th and Elaine Grant's on March 28th.

Contact Elaine if you'd like to be added to the Substitute List.



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group

Wednesday, March 22, 10:00 am

Mattapoisett Public Library Community Room

At our February meeting, members packed seeds for the library's seed catalog. Seed packets are free to library patrons. Go get yours!

March Meeting – Date Change - March 22nd, same time, same place. Our March meeting will feature a food event with Chef Colby Rottler, a private chef and graduate of Johnson & Wales culinary program. He will create appetizers using vegetables, herbs, and spices in healthy ways. We will then destroy his creations in a few bites plus share a tasty dessert.

Looking ahead:

April - A guided tour of the Roger Williams Park Botanical Center in Providence, Rhode Island.

The Center is New England's largest glasshouse display garden. A wide variety of plants can be found, including majestic 40' tall palms, carnivorous plants, 10' cacti, and succulents plus a pond and waterfall. The added buzz around this trip includes lunch at a Providence restaurant.

May - Annual Potluck Luncheon

June - Garden Tour - We're busy making plans for our June in Bloom! Garden Tour on June 24th, a rain or shine event.

Members of the MWC are always welcome to join the Garden Group or visit a meeting.



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Woman's Club Walks

Fridays 1:30 pm

With more 'spring' in our steps, the Walking Group will continue to walk on Fridays at 1:30 PM. New walkers are always welcome!

Please contact Erin to receive emails on the upcoming walk location: 508 758-4336.

From left: Sue Mitchell, Roxanne Bungert, Barb Van Inwegen, Sharon Doyon, and Erin Burlinson



Knitting & Hand Crafts

Thursday, March 23 2:00 - 4:00 pm

In March, the Mattapoissett Woman's Club Knitting & Handicrafts group will be meeting on March 23, which is the fourth Thursday in March. The location for our meeting will be 23 Channel Street, in Mattapoissett. The meeting begins at 2 pm, and lasts about two hours. Please let me know if you will be able to join us by calling me at 508-828-8091 prior to the meeting. I am hoping that we will have the weather to knit out on the deck, but in New England that has to be decided at the very last minute, especially in the month of March.

I would like to thank all of my wonderful friends who belong to the Mattapoissett Woman's Club. Everyone has been so supportive as my family experienced the loss of our grandson in January. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

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



Marie Rottler
Knitting Chair, Website

F-U-Ndraising

Did you ever notice that the first three letters of the word fundraising are F-U-N? Oh yes, D comes next but there's no reason F-U-Ndraising can't be just that – F-U-N!

The new F-U-Ndraising team is hoping to create a unique vision of F-U-Ndraising and we need your help! Like anything else, if your previous experience has you looking for the delete button, please, don't click it because in this case, we plan to make our combined efforts more F-U-N than a have-to-do chore. What we're looking for right now is more team members; we have four so far and initially we need about six more to create a mission statement and develop an operations plan for the team that we're going to grow to be. These team members will constitute the core planning team of 10.

The essential mission of this team will be to imagine and create new F-U-Ndraising opportunities, plan for them, facilitate the plans, and do an after-event evaluation. Likely, we'll meet once every other week during the conception and planning periods, which should last about two months starting in late March, likely at my house. After that, we'll meet as needed for each event we're going to manage for the rest of the year. This effort does require members to have time to seriously devote to the effort, which, after all, provides the lifeblood money the organization depends on to operate.

What we're looking for right now is a short statement from those of you who want to get in on the F-U-N. Let us know why you're interested in being part of this team and what experience you have in F-U-Ndraising, from taking tickets at an event to managing the food operation at a carnival to running an entire event! Doesn't matter how small it may seem to you because all experiences count in this undertaking. Please contact me by March 8, and they can be emailed to me, Kate Brown, at imkateb@gmail.com or snail mailed to me at 9 Abby Lane, 02739. I will reply to you by March 10, and the first meeting of the new team will be held – hopefully -- on Tuesday, March 21.

This is definitely going to be an exciting opportunity to get involved in the MWC, and I promise it's going to be F-U-N! Please, take this opportunity to get involved!

If you can't get "involved in one more thing," you can keep up with what's going on with this team and other groups on the refreshed and revised website at www.mattapoisettwomansclub.org. We've redesigned some things, added and subtracted a few others, and are always on the lookout for good writers who want to get involved with the website's development as a communication tool, especially for the new F-U-Ndraising Team's novel ideas for money making!

And that's it for now, but more will appear here next month as we move ahead with the formation of a new F-U-Ndraising Team and find new website writers. Both should be great opportunities for new members and members who find it difficult to make it to the luncheons because of work obligations and/or family responsibilities to get to know what's going on across the board in the MWC organization and get involved on a remote basis with its operation.

~ Kate Brown

February Meeting Luncheon

On a lovely, mild February afternoon, about 40 members of our Club enjoyed a delicious luncheon prepared by Jen Shepley and her able-bodied committee. Additional townspeople joined us in listening to our featured speaker, Attorney Korinn Petersen of the Buzzards Bay Coalition. All were interested in knowing how the town's septic systems were going to be affected by the new Title 5 regulations being generated to protect our coastline and watersheds. There was some relief in learning that it will be some years before Mattapoisett faces the requirements.

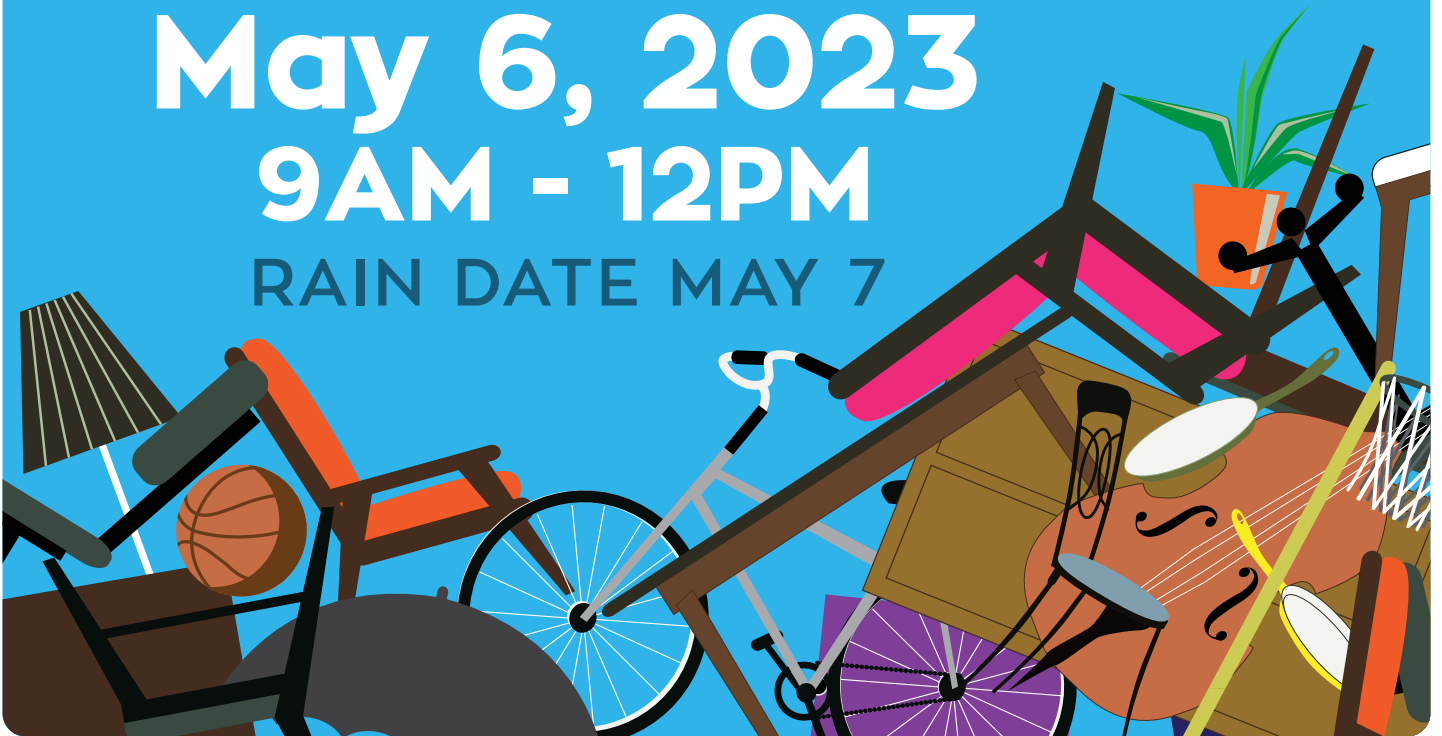


Find a treasure at the
MATTAPOISETT WOMAN'S CLUB
TAG SALE

May 6, 2023

9AM - 12PM

RAIN DATE MAY 7



All proceeds benefit the Mattpoisett Woman's Club Scholarships

22 County Road (Rt. 6) Mattapoisett

Parking Lot between Ying Dynasty & Harriet's Catering



NO Earlybirds • Cash & Checks Only

Visit mattapoisettwomansclub.org
for more information about this events
and the MWC Scholarships. Follow us on Facebook!

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club was organized in the fall of 1941 with civic, social, educational and philanthropic objectives in mind. Over 80 years later, those objectives remain the same. From scholarships and town improvements to activism and volunteer work this strong group of women have shaped Mattapoisett's history. Membership in the group is open to any woman who has interests in our goals.

Officers

President

Sandra Hering

Vice President

Kate Brown

Recording Secretary

Sherry Hoines

Corresponding Secretary

Elaine Grant

Treasurer

Suzan Mitchell

Assistant Treasurer Membership, Dues

Lois K. Ennis

Board of Directors

2023 Roxanne Bungert

2024 Carole Clifford

2025 Linda Clifford

Standing Committee Chair

Publicity*

Kate Brown

Website*

Kate Brown

Marie Rottler

Facebook*

Cindy Turse

Ladies' Choice Editor*

Elaine Grant

Peg Olney

Ladies' Choice Publisher

Debra Nettles

Hospitality*

Erin Burlinson

Program Director*

Eileen Marum

Garden Group*

Chair - Cindy Turse

Special Committee Chair

Great Decisions

Ellen Flynn

Photographer

Ann Tisdale

Greetings & Remembrances

Linda Clifford

Scholarship Committee

2022-2023 Robert Oakley,
Chair

2023-2024 Bethany Cuoto

2024-2025 Jan Hubley

Audit Committee

2023 Cindy Turse

2024 Marianne Hickey

2025 Sherry Hoines

Membership Committee

Sharon Doyon

Christine Voss

Kate Brown

Social Activities

Bridge

Jackie Slade

Knitting

Marie Rottler

Literature Group

Peg Olney

Social Cocktail Group

Linda Clifford

Welcome

New Members

Marianne Hickey

Walking Group

Sandra Hering

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



JOIN NOW!

