November 2023

VOLUME LXII No. 3





PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Club Members.

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club is alive and thriving! We had what we believe is record attendance at our October Luncheon, our finances are up and, most importantly, our membership keeps on growing! I couldn't have been happier to have to delay the start of the October meeting when we discovered that we needed two more tables set up for seating. And I don't think the members minded, as the conversation continued while our strong volunteers set up the tables and our superb Tea Committee, led by Susan Perkins, added more place settings and importantly, had enough food to feed 64 people, more than we usually expect.



Sandra Hering President, MWC

I am dedicating this month's letter to all of you. I'm going to do a little name dropping here, but it is every one of you who are the life of the MWC. So, here we go. I want to begin with Lois Ennis, who has a Membership Book, or blue book, for everyone of you. This book is full of important information for the year, including of course, our members, their emails and their phone numbers; information that is not always easy to locate now that many of us only use a cell phone. Please call Lois to arrange to pick up your copy if you have not yet received yours. She's easy to reach at 508-758-8269. I have learned how much Lois puts into the updating and publishing of this book each year, and I thank you, Lois!

In comparing this year's book to last year's, I discovered we have 23 new members now in our ranks that weren't in the 2022 publication. These are members who have joined since August 2022 and include the members who joined at the October meeting, Peggy Totten, MJ Welling, Mary Schubert, and Jane Howard. Prior to the meeting, Pat Goss and Lizanne Campbell joined the Club as well. Quite a few new members, along with others, joined the October 20 Woman's Club Walk in the Village, where Past President Carole Clifford gave a very interesting and personal talk about our town, including her own stories of growing up here and what the town was like. Thank you, Carole!

Finally, I want to draw attention to a beautiful video about the MWC and our history. It is available on our web site under the heading of www.mattapoisettwomansclub.org/about or by clicking here. It was created for our 75th Jubilee Anniversary in 2017 and contains a great history of the Club and is a great reminder of all the good we have given to our community and why we continue to attract new members to our club. Happy viewing!

Best wishes, Sandra Hering **MWC President**

HOW DID I GET TO THE MWC?

My hometown was Fairfield, Connecticut and I attended Bates College in Maine where I met my husband, Dave. After his graduate school, we married in the summer of 1958 and honeymooned for two weeks at a cottage at Peases Point, across the street from the vacant family lot which once housed two cottages lost in the hurricanes of 1938 and 1954.

Dave's first high school teaching job was in New Rochelle, NY, where we lived for 15 years, raising our three children. In 1969 we decided to erect a foundation and prefab shell on the empty lot at Peases Point. Over the next three summers, with the help of Dave's brother and nephew, we completed the interior. With summers off from Dave's teaching job, we enjoyed many vacations there. In 1972 we bought a small sailboat which Dave loved to sail until it was lost in a storm in 2010.



The traveling from New Rochelle was long, so Dave took a teaching job in Lexington, which enabled us to move into the family home in Waltham where he had grown up. When our children were approaching college age, I started working in a corporate cafeteria for a few years, which allowed summers off! Soon after, I worked 13 years full-time in the corporate Financial Services Department of a company in the food service industry, and retired in 1994.

We sold the Waltham house in 1995 and moved to Mattapoisett and decided not to live year-round at Peases Point. We bought a second house close to Mattapoisett village.

A neighbor immediately introduced me to the Mattapoisett Woman's Club and, as they say, the rest is history! Back then, the Garden and Literature Groups and Great Decisions had all been active for many years. I quickly joined the Garden Group and a few years later the Literature Group. About 20 years ago there was a Craft Group that lasted for a few years, where we brought our own knitting or whatever craft we worked on. Sometimes we did crafts as a group, such as making holiday tray favors for nursing homes. One memorable group project was making cut-and-pierce lampshades. It was a time-consuming but satisfying project, and I'm still using mine.

In 1998 I volunteered to take over producing the monthly newsletter, Ladies Choice, which I enjoyed doing for 20 years. Back then it had all the monthly club news, but was not the professional issue that we have today. Each month it was printed in black ink on blue paper on a used copy machine, and had to be hand folded and stuffed into envelopes for mailing to Club members, a labor intensive project! Later we had a laser printer, and transitioned to emailing, with only a few copies printed. I still can't give it up, and help Elaine Grant with each issue by proofreading and editing before we send to our professional publisher, Debra Nettles, who does her magic with layout and color photos.

I'm also active in other organizations in town, sing in the church choir and recently retired from singing in the Sippican Choral Society. Each year I move back and forth in Spring and Fall between the two houses. Dave passed away a few years ago and we have four grandchildren, ages 20-31. Our family, along with extended family members, enjoy the summers at the beach, also known as Grandpa's Ocean, in honor of Dave's grandfather who bought the lot around 1915 and built the first cottage.

I am grateful to have met so many new friends over the years in the MWC!

~ Peg Olney

MWC News & Information

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOVEMBER MEETING

Please join us on Thursday, November 16th for our monthly membership meeting. Our featured speaker is Mark Munkacasy, a local amateur astronomer, who will speak about the Coahulia Meteorite currently at Marion's Taber Library. The topic lends itself to be most fascinating as the billion-year journey of the rock is recounted.

We gather at 11 am for socialization, followed by lunch and speaker, then a short business meeting. We hope to see you on the 16th!

Also to be noted on your calendar is our December 14th holiday buffet luncheon which will be at Reynard Hall and catered by On The Go for \$30 per person.

You may bring your check payable to Mattapoisett Woman's Club to the November meeting, or mail it to P. O. Box 1444 by December 7th.

Don't miss this festive program which has been organized by Roxanne Bungert and Bobbie Ketchel. *See page 6 for more details.*

NOVEMBER 16 LUNCHEON TEA COMMITTEE

Ladies, please refer to pages 41 to 44 in your membership Blue Book. There you will find detailed instructions for your duties.

Co-Hostess: Myra Hart and Linda Clifford **Committee:** Esther Callum, Katherine Gaudet, Cheryl Guerriero, Aina Holden, Beth Inglis, Patricia King, Anne Layton, Eileen Marum, Alice Openshaw, Nancy Persson, Barbara Poznysz, Candee Seeley, Jennifer Thompson

VETERAN'S DAY REMEMBRANCE

On Saturday, November 11, 2023, Veterans' Day, various town organizations will hold commemorative services to honor the millions of American men and women who have served in uniform, from the Revolutionary War through today, and the ways in which their services to this great nation have provided us with the freedoms and lives we live and enjoy today.

At 11 am, in the area around the Mattapoisett Congregational Church and Center School, village residents and others who cannot make it to the official ceremonies conducted by the Town and its veterans' organizations at Old Hammondtown School earlier in the morning, can gather with the members of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club to hear the church's bell toll in honor of our veterans.

The Bell Remembrance Ceremony is offered through the support of the Florence Eastman American Legion Post 280 and the Doughboy Foundation so that residents proximate to that area at 11 am can experience, yet again, the tolling of the 21 Bells of Freedom that marks the signing of the Armistice that ended WWI, a.k.a. the war to end all wars, at 11 am on Saturday.

Residents are invited to participate in both remembrance ceremonies – either at 10:45 am or 11 am -- on Veterans' Day 2023, Saturday, November 11.

COCKTAIL SOCIAL NEWS

Mark your calendars for the first Cocktail Social of 2024! The Social will be held on Sunday, January 14 from 5 - 7 pm. It will be co-hosted by Beth Inglis and Robin Lepore and held at Robin's home at 6 Seabreeze Lane in Mattapoisett. For this event please RSVP directly to Robin at 617-584-2795 or email thomaslepore@yahoo.com.

Please bring an appetizer to share and your beverage of choice. Spouses, partners and guests are welcome.

4th Annual Greens Sale

Our 4th annual Greens Sale will be at Ying's Parking Lot on December 2nd (rain date 12/3). Prior to the sale there will be several workshops for ornaments, wreaths, swags, centerpieces, and bunched greens. This fundraiser directly supports the scholarships, programs, and community outreach of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club.

On October 24th, a group of eleven garden group members gathered in Cindy Turse's barn to create and finish some of the unique ornaments that will be available at the Greens Sale. They will be dated with MWC 2023 and become collectors' items for sure!

On November 1st, the Garden Group will meet in the Community Room of the library at 10:00am to decorate rope wreaths, put finishing touches on ornaments from the 10/24 workshop, and package all ornaments for sale.

WANTED:Materials for wreaths, centerpieces, and swags!

Pinecones from black pines (not white pines), interesting natural materials, driftwood, cool containers, textured sticks, shells, small sea glass pieces, grapevines, horseshoe crab shells, and more. Let your imagination run wild and carry a bag with you when you walk in the woods.



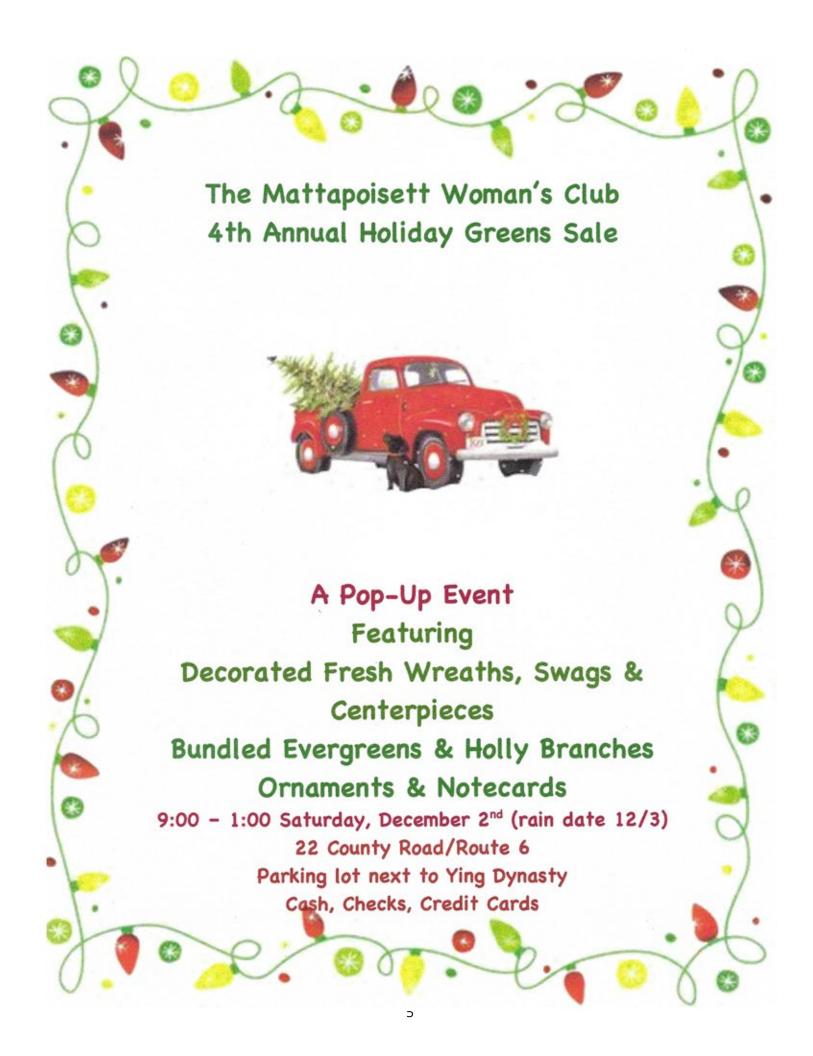


Sharon Doyon and Maureen Kelly





Bobbie Oakley



October Meeting

Fall was in its glory when 64 members and visitors enjoyed our gathering on October 19th. Sue Perkins and her hostess committee set a Hallow-een-themed ambience and provided a delicious luncheon. We were delighted to welcome four new members: Peggy Totten, MJ Welling, Jane Howard, and Mary Schubert, a returning member, as is Pat Goss who was not in attendance.

Our speaker, Frances Feliz-Kearns, the Mattapoisett Representative of the ORR District School Committee, gave an excellent presentation on the STEAM (Science, Engineering, Arts and Math) Program offered to our students to prepare them for success in our fast-changing world.

At our brief business meeting, President Sandy Hering announced that there are two vacancies on the Board: Vice President and Recording Secretary, as well as the Nominating Committee Director. Bobbie Ketchel graciously volunteered to head this Committee. Sandy also urged members to suggest what would appeal to them for future programs.

More photos on page 7

MWC HOLIDAY MEETING DEC. 14

The December meeting of the MWC will be on the 14th at Reynard Hall at 11 am. The catered buffet lunch will be offered by On the Go at Noon. Price per person is \$30, payable to MWC by December 7th. Checks payable to MWC will be accepted at our November 16th luncheon.

The program will be the singing of Christmas Carols under the guidance of Gail Roberts on the piano, accompanied by Kristen Henriques on the flute.

We all will leave after a satisfying meal and with the Holiday Spirit!



























Pistil Packin' Mamas Packed Bulbs

The Pistil Packin' Mamas gathered at Ned's Point on short notice and packed a variety of daffodils that included the classic King Alfred bulbs and bags of mystery bulbs. The job from beginning to end took 50 minutes!

The daffodils are priced at \$10/bag for 12 classic King Alfred bulbs or, new this year, 16 mixed mystery bulbs. They can be purchased at Pen & Pendulum across from the Mattapoisett Police Department (open regular hours during construction).

This fundraiser directly supports the scholarships, programs, and community outreach of the Mattapoisett Woman's Club.









MWC Partners with MLT

The Mattapoisett Land Trust Education Committee partnered with the Mattapoisett Woman's Club to donate 400 mixed daffodil bulbs to the science program at Old Hammondtown Elementary School and Center School. Ellen Flynn, Chairperson of the MLT Education Committee and former President of the MWC, made the presentation to Ben Squire, ORR School District Coordinator of Elementary Science on October 18th.

The 3rd grade students at Center School and the 5th graders at OHS used daffodils to learn about the structure and function of plant parts. They also investigate how environmental conditions and genetics impact the growth of the plant over time. Some of the bulbs will be planted in different locations around the school and students will journal their growth in the spring. Once they bloom the students learn all about the flower parts and how pollinators help aid plants. Additionally, the school grounds have added beauty in the spring.

Last year's bulbs are naturalizing and producing more flowers for years to come!





Visit these Mattapoisett Holiday Events!

CHRISTMAS ON CHURCH STREET

The Mattapoisett Congregational Church's annual Holiday Fair will be held on Saturday, December 2, 2023 from 9 am – 1 pm in Reynard Hall at 27 Church Street in Mattapoisett. This year's event will include homemade frozen foods, baked treats, hand knitted and crafted items, Christmas/holiday decorations, gift items, greenery for wreaths as well as jewelry, silent auction items, a kids' table and a delicious hot soup luncheon! All proceeds benefit the ministries of the Mattapoisett Congregational Church.

CHRISTMAS BY THE SEA BAZAAR

Join St. Anthony's Parish, 26 Hammond Street, on December 2, from 9 am to 1 pm. Local vendors will offer many handcrafted gifts, art, ornaments, t-shirts and stocking stuffers.

Credit cards are accepted.

There will be holiday music, refreshments, cookie decorating, wreaths and greens arrangements, gift baskets and a grand raffle, with a visit by Santa.

All proceeds benefit St. Anthony-St. Rita initiatives.

Literature Group

Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus.

Wednesday, November 8 9:30 am & 1:00 pm (please details below)

our October 11 meeting, voted to divide into two smaller groups. There will be Morning and Afternoon groups both meeting on our traditional meeting day, the second Wednesday of each month in the club year. The smaller groups will make it easier to meet in members' homes and especially for book discussion. In November the meetings will be on Wednesday, November 8. The Morning group will meet at the home of Robin Lepore, 6 Seabreeze Lane, at 9:30 am. The Afternoon group will meet in the Marine Room on the main floor of the library at 1:00 pm with Gail Roberts as leader. Our discussion book is "Lessons in

As reported at the October 19 monthly MWC meeting, the Literature Group, at

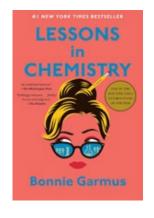
Club members wishing to join us are welcome to come to either group but are encouraged to attend the Afternoon group as it is smaller. Please contact the hostess to let her know you are coming.

Questions? Contact Peg Olney, pegolney@verizon.net or 508-758-2531

~ Peg Olney



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



Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results.

But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show Supper at Six. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters, Lessons in Chemistry is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.

2023-24 Literature Group Book List

December: "Outermost House" by Henry Beston

January: "The Martian" by Andy Weir

February: *The Winthrop Woman*" by Anya Seton

March: "Tom Lake" by Ann Patchett April: "The Postcard" by Anne Berest

Garden Group

Wednesday, November 1, 10:00 am
Mattapoisett Public Library Community Room

On November 1st, the Garden Group will meet in the Community Room of the Library at 10:00 am to decorate rope wreaths, put finishing touches on ornaments from the 10/24 workshop, and package all ornaments for sale.

Native Plant Seed Starting: Sandy Hering & Barb Van Inwegen have scheduled a workshop in the Library on January 20th from 10 to noon to demonstrate how to sow native perennial seeds in milk jugs. This workshop will underscore the importance of growing native plants for our native insects and birds. This project is done in collaboration with the Mattapoisett Land Trust.

Our **Annual Wreath and Greens Sale** is scheduled for December 2nd in Ying's parking lot. Prior to 12/2, there will be several holiday workshops to create bows and small ornaments for sale. Immediately after Thanksgiving, volunteers will be meeting in barns to make wreaths, swags, centerpieces, and other inspired creations.

Anyone can participate in the workshops, or donate materials and containers. There will be lots of informative emails as the season approaches.

~ Cindy Turse

Fall is In the Air and in the Plantings!

Check out the post office window boxes and the urns at the library. They were planted by Susan Perkins, Sharon, Doyon, Sue Mitchell, and Deb Ruel. Many thanks for the fall designs!





Mah Jongg

Wednesdays 1:00 pm Council On Aging (COA), 17 Barstow Street

Mah Jong is a great game to work your brain. We play non-competitively and there are never any partners to disappoint.

Mah Jongg instruction sessions!

Mary Dermody will be doing Mah Jongg instruction sessions as listed below in conjunction with the regular weekly Mah Jongg sessions at the Council on Aging (COA).

Complete introductory Session - 3 hours:

Wednesday, November 8 at 12:00pm*

Practice Play 2 to 3 hours:

Wednesday, November 15 at 12:00pm*

*Note the special early starting time for these two sessions only

If you'd like to learn to play, contact, Mary Dermody to sign-up marydermody@me.com (610) 937-7455.

Attending the first session on November 8, will be critical to understanding how the game is played. If you are unable to attend on November 8, still contact Mary to see if an alternate plan can be worked out.

After these two special sessions above, come whenever you can to the regular weekly Mah Jongg sessions held in conjunction with the Council on Aging (COA).

Knitting & Hand Crafts Friday, December 15 2:00 - 4:00 pm

There is no meeting scheduled for November. Our next meeting will be on Friday, December 15th. In the meantime, we will try to think of a name for our group that will include all handicrafts.

I ask that if you are planning to attend, please contact me at 508-828-8091 prior to the meeting, so that I can set up the room for the number attending.

~ Marie Rottler



Marie Rottler

Knitting Chair

Ladies Who Lunch

Wednesday, November 29

Ladies Who Lunch went to Italy on Wednesday, October 25, with lunch at Fay's Italian Restaurant in South Dartmouth. Everyone's lunch was delicious, from Chicken served Parmigiana, Alfredo, or Marsala style to Fettuccine Faedra to Pumpkin and Butternut Ravioli to Steak Tips Gorgonzola. Portions were large enough that each of us had more than enough to take home for dinner, too! We all agreed that the food was outstanding and that we'd all like to go back for another trip to Italy at Fay's Restaurant.

Next country we'll be visiting is India with an outing to the new Indian restaurant in Fairhaven. With its second location in Bristol, RI, this Saffron by the Sea is beautifully housed in what used to be the Seaport Inn and is now a conference center. The restaurant describes itself as a "modern Indian restaurant that fuses traditional flavors and nautical charm where patrons will enjoy an elegant waterside ambiance while experiencing a fresh twist in Indian dining."

Said a diner from the area, "The menu is very extensive and the waitstaff were available to answer any questions. The food was awesome with authentic flavors plus they ask about your preference for spice/ hot level. The garlic naan was amazing!" After a recent visit, said another from out-of-town, "We had one of the best Indian meals here...Food was fantastic, the dining room is beautiful and the staff were attentive and friendly! Be sure to order the Samosa Chaat, you won't be disappointed! Can't wait to go back! A great addition to Fairhaven."

We are excited to head to India to enjoy what, from the reviews and pictures on their Yelp review site at www.yelp.com/biz/saffron-by-the-sea-fairhaven, appears to offer a wonderful mix of Indian and seafood favorites along with lots of new dishes to try, all of which sound delicious. We had a fun time on our last trip and invite you to come along with us on our next trip, this time to India, the land of diversity on Wednesday, November 29. Get in touch with Kate Brown to reserve your spot.





Above: Peg Olney, Betty Parker, Diane Brown-Couture, Lois Ennis, opposite Kate Brown.

Left: Betty Parker displaying her Fettuccini dish with Diane Brown-Couture looking on.

Walking Group Fridays, 1:30 pm

Fridays have been great for walking. Fortunately weather has cooperated (unlike the weekends!) and the MWC walking group has taken full advantage of it. On October 6 we completed a self-guided history walking tour of the village of Fairhaven where we viewed the remarkable architecture of the buildings that Henry Huttleston Rogers donated to



the town. As many of you know, he donated the Town Hall, Unitarian Church, Millicent Library, Tabatha Inn (now Our Ladies Haven), High School, and others. Did you know he also donated the Center School in Mattapoisett? And lived in a house on Main Street in Mattapoisett, as well?

Also, did you know that Fairhaven's Town Beach on West Island is great for beach walking? On Oct. 13 several MWC members went for a long beach walk there. The views are exceptional and the water is pristine. (No resident permit is needed during the offseason.)

And on Oct. 20 we had a wonderful history tour led by our local historian and MWC member, Carole Clifford. Carole shared many stories about Mattapoisett. For example, did you know the original barber, Abraham Skidmore (who was also a drummer) led the Mattapoisett Halloween parade every year? Today, Jodi Bauer, who owns the same barber shop, continues this tradition and leads the Halloween parade with her drum. Also, did you know that the Town Hall was supposed to have a clock on its tower, but folks "never got around to it" and the tower remains simply shingled today.

All are welcome to join us. For more information, please contact Sue Mitchell.

~ Sue Mitchell



West Island Town Beach: Sue Mitchell, Robin Lepore, Cindy Turse, Mary Dermody, Erin Burlinson, Alice Openshaw, Roxanne Bungert. Left: Elaine Botelho.



In front of Millicent Library, Fairhaven: Mary Dermody, Elaine Botelho, Beth Inglis, Cindy Johnson, Candy Cederberg, Sue Mitchell, Alice Openshaw, Peg Olney, Cindy Turse.

Bridge Group

Second and fourth Tuesdays 1:00 pm

The Bridge players enjoyed their first meeting of the season at Ann Butler's home, and then at Betty Ann Cannell's on the 24th.

We welcome to our group Pat Goss as a "regular."

~ Elaine Grant



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. Please contact Mary O'Keefe if you're currently volunteering, or have in the past, we'd love to hear of your experience.

Center School Library

The library at Center School is looking for volunteers. Below please find the details:

- · Checking in and shelving books
- Organizing shelves and making sure they are in order
- · Looking for books in need of repair and fixing them
- · Covering New Books
- Doing an inventory (this is a big project that hasn't been done since 2017 hoping for the spring)
- Weeding books starting by the oldest book in our libraries that have not been checked out in a while
 so that I can make sure they are still appropriate by today's standards
- Help making all our shelves more aesthetically appealing
- · Help organizing supplies closet
- Help decorating the library for holiday's/seasons/history months
- Helping with seasonal bulletin boards
- · And more

The job would involve a fair amount of bending because many of the shelves are inches from the ground. The hours are flexible, but it would be great if they were consistent.

Thank you for your consideration.

~ *Donna Smith* Volunteer Coordinator Mattapoisett COA

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2024 Marianne Hickey 2025 Sherry Hoines 2026 Sue Mitchell **Social Activities**

Bridge

Elaine Grant

Knitting

Marie Rottler

Ladies Who Lunch

Kate Brown

Literature Group

Peg Olney

Mah Jongg

Mary Dermody

Social Cocktail Group

Linda Clifford

Walking Group

Sue Mitchell

*Executive Board

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



