



LADIES CHOICE

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Newsletter

www.MattapoissettWomansClub.org

April 2024
VOLUME LXII No. 8

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Club Members,

This is my last President's letter to you, and it surprises me how fast the two years have gone. As fun as it has been, I am eager to see our new officers move into their roles and see the direction that the club moves in the future.

One of the initiatives that just began is to explore how we might become a more inclusive club for members who are younger, and may be working. This is an exciting direction for our club to explore. It begins with a survey of our club's members, and if you haven't yet filled out the survey, please refer to the Woman's Club email of March 23rd for the survey link.

The reason this is so important for our club is that today's world changes so quickly that we should be looking for new members who will expand the interests of the group and bring new ideas and opportunities to our current members. Expanding our member base in a small way by featuring some events that attract women with availability outside of our Thursday 11-2 meeting time will expand our reach into our community. I could see that enjoying a group event on a Sunday afternoon in January when most of the world seems to me to be watching football would be a fun way to spend the afternoon. Maybe do trips to museums or other attractions as a start, since we don't have a facility booked for these meetings as we begin to plan them.

The day after our last luncheon meeting I had a fun day with 5 other members of the Garden Group. We went to the Attleboro Art Museum and viewed their mini Flower Show. See Cindy Turse's write up on page 10-11. We then went to nearby Briggs Nursery both for shopping and for lunch. It was a great time to enjoy one another's company, buy pansies for our planters at the post office and library, and talk about the flower show and art in the museum. I didn't even know that Attleboro had an art museum; I did know about Briggs, but others in our group hadn't discovered it yet. And importantly, I would not have driven that far to buy pansies, therefore I wouldn't have the new outdoor rug that I also bought! It's not really about shopping, it's really about the enjoyment of being with new people and doing new and different things. I hope this effort of looking for new ways to include new people in our club continues. It's a lifeline for our club and maybe for others in our community.

Thanks for your support over the last two years. It's been an enjoyable task being your President.

Sandra Hering
MWC President



Sandra Hering
President, MWC

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

APRIL 11TH • 10 AM • MATTAPOISETT LIBRARY

HOW I GOT TO THE MWC

It was a circuitous route. Back in the day, before I retired, Carolyn Price asked me if I was interested in joining. I was very flattered that she considered me suitable. However, I was working in Boston full time and didn't think I would be able to actively participate. To be honest, I didn't see myself as a "club" woman. If I remember correctly (check with Carolyn), I said I was not into gardening, games or great books, but rather saw myself as a "worker bee". Give me a project to work on and I'm there!

After the third try at retirement, I was ready to join and very grateful for the opportunity to meet and work with the women of the Woman's Club, many of whom I'd known for a billion years. I love working on the fund-raising projects—pies, greens, yard sales, and more—knowing that the money we raise provides scholarships and supports organizations that are important to me.

It is a joy to gather for lunch regularly and be part of the institution that is the Mattapoissett Woman's Club.

~ *Cindy Johnson*



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MATTAPOISETT WOMAN'S CLUB
APRIL 18, 2024
THE WAMSUTTA CLUB, NEW BEDFORD
Gathering at 11:30, Lunch served at Noon

Ladies, all meals include a salad, starch, vegetable, tea, coffee and rolls. Dessert is ice cream with chocolate sauce. The cost for a meal is \$30.

Your choice of entrée follows:

- 1) Broiled Salmon with dill sauce
- 2) Stuffed Pork Tenderloin with apple stuffing
- 3) Pasta Primavera

My meal choice is: (Circle one) #1 #2 #3

Name: _____ Telephone # _____

You are encouraged to reserve your meal and at the same time pay your annual dues by check or cash.

Please circle one below:

Meal Reservation \$30 Dues \$25 Dues & Meal \$55

Mail to: Mattapoissett Woman's Club, PO Box 1444, Mattapoissett, MA. 02739

**Be sure to include check and meal choice if appropriate.
Reservations must be made by Thursday, April 11.**

MWC News & Information

LUNCH AND ENTERTAINMENT AT THE WAMSUTTA CLUB

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club will hold its Annual Meeting at the Wamsutta Club in New Bedford on April 18th beginning at 11:30. Make sure you send in your reservation by April 11th. Reservation slips were emailed to all by Lois Ennis, and there is a reservation slip on page 2 of this issue. Be sure to submit your reservation form below if you're not signed up.

We are excited to have Carol Cohen, a published historian and playwright, present a program of Eleanor Roosevelt's Victory Garden promotion during World War II. See below for more information on Carol.

After a short business meeting by our out going President Sandy Hering, we will have the installation of officers. We are encouraging all members to attend and honor the officers who are ending their term and welcoming the new officer slate.

April Hostess Committee: Carole Clifford, Roxanne Bungert, Linda Clifford, Lois Ennis, Anne Kimball, Mary O'Keefe, Barbara Van Inwegen, Judy Livolsi and Ruth Ann Walega

A WALK THROUGH THE GARDEN WITH ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

Join author and historian Carol Cohen for a look into the life of Eleanor Roosevelt.

During World War II, Eleanor Roosevelt planted an iconic "Victory Garden" on the White House Lawn and encouraged other Americans to do the same. Using first-person narrative learn about Eleanor Roosevelt's humanitarian efforts, as well her recognition of those who took a major role in the feeding America during World War II. The program also includes an informative PowerPoint presentation outlining the place of Victory Gardens in American history and their relevance in today's world.



Carol Cohen teaches at Lesley University and is a published historian, playwright, and owner of an educational consulting company. Carol recently published *Begin with a Box: A Hands On Resource for Teaching and Learning* with Empress Publishers and is presently working on a book called *Lessons with Eleanor Roosevelt*.

KEEP MATTAPOISETT BEAUTIFUL

Please sign up to help Keep Mattapoissett Beautiful on Saturday, April 20th from 9 to 11 am. This is the 2nd year the Sustainability Partnership is organizing the cleanup "party" for Mattapoissett. The Mattapoissett Woman's Club is supporting the cause by donating money to provide 20 grabbers for people to use as we scour the streets in our neighborhoods for trash. Individuals/friends/families are asked to sign up online through the Mattapoissett Free Public Library's website calendar to keep our town sparkling and litter-free.

We hope you will join other Woman's Club members, your neighbors and friends at the library starting at 9 am on April 20th. We'll have trash bags, grabbers (first come, first served), and light snacks for volunteers. We encourage you to bring your own reusable water bottle. We'll have a giant carafe of water for refills and a town truck at the library to toss the trash into after we weigh the bags. Last year we collected over 800 lbs. of litter. Let's see if we can top that trash total!

Questions? Talk to Eileen Marum, Pat Cole or Barb Van Inwegen.

MWC News & Information



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FOR SUE HOVASSE

At our luncheon meeting on March 21st, our club presented Sue Hovasse with a Certificate of Appreciation for standing with us.

For several years, Sue, owner of Pen and Pendulum has supported the Mattapoissett Woman's Club charity fundraisers with poster placement, ticket sales, card sales, daffodil bulb sales, notecard and postcard sales, and online advertising. She has been instrumental in publicizing The Taste of the Town, The Pie Sale, The Garden Tour, Pathway to Planting, and The Greens Sale, and often asks how she can assist. She was very pleased with the honor.

SOCIAL COCKTAIL HOSTESSES NEEDED

The Social Cocktail gatherings are held 3-4 times (January, April/May, September/October and early December) during the year. The hostess chooses the date, usually a weekend (Saturday or Sunday) and 5-7PM. And she provides the space, glassware, papers goods. Those attending bring their beverage of choice and an appetizer to share. It is a relaxing way to gather and enjoy the company of other club members and their guests. Please consider hosting an evening so these gatherings can continue.

Questions, please contact Linda Clifford at 508-207-6572 or email tilly_ralph@hotmail.com

Look forward to hearing from you!!

WALT'S MOBILE CLOSET

Walt's Mobile Closet is a local charity that provides FREE clothing and more. They partner with social service organizations to take their mobile clothes closet to locations throughout the south coast. you. Since March of 2022, they have hosted over 80 free shopping events, providing clothing support to almost 4,000 people.

They provide gently used/new adult & children's clothing, shoes, and toiletries.

Clothing donations for Walt's can be dropped off at the following community partner locations: Gleason Family YMCA, 33 Charge Pond Rd., Wareham (lobby bin) and the Marion Council on Aging, 465 Mill St. (Rt 6), Marion - drop at front desk, M-F 9-3.

Finally, who's Walt? Whitney Tully is the Founder of Walt's and she honors the memory of her Dad with this charity. He loved beautiful clothing and always looked his best even when he was working in his very large garden or on his beloved Corvette.



MWC News & Information

LUICE MONCEY (NEE MONCEVITCH) CLASS OF 1953, STONEHILL COLLEGE

It was a glorious September morning in 1951 when I entered the beautiful rhododendron-lined paths to Stonehill College as a transfer student.

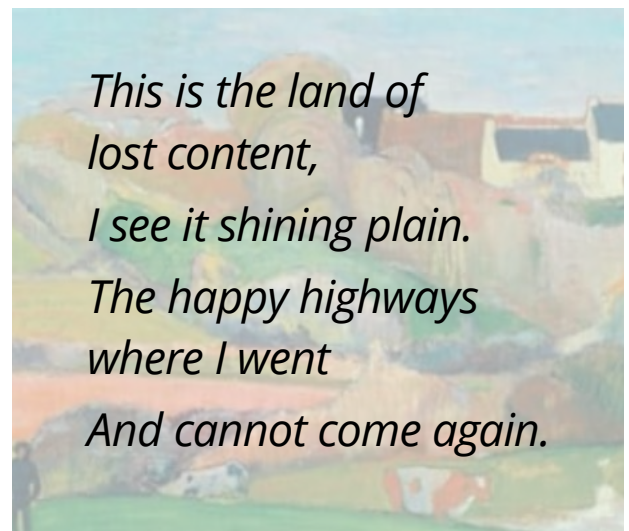
When I entered my first class in the Philosophy of Aristotle and Aquinas, I was met with a sea of black robes—the early students of the Holy Cross Fathers—and not another woman in the room. As the day went on, I realized that my classmates were all men—veterans of World War II, the Korean War and future priests. These wonderful students would soon become my devoted brothers. They even asked if I would direct the theatre piece for the Speech Arts Society. I chose Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*, complete with a Greek chorus and fire-laden torches!

In September of 1952, I was honored to be chosen to edit our yearbook, and this became a singular opportunity to interview each senior expressing his hopes and dreams for the future. Many became doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers and, of course, priests—above all, my friends, their devotion lasting down through the years.



In May of 1953, we took our last walk past my beloved rhododendrons to the white graduation tent where, with shaking hands, I received my diploma as the first woman graduate of Stonehill College's first graduating class.

Somewhere along a wooded path lies a large grey stone, a gift from our class, engraved with the haunting words of A. E. Housman from *A Shropshire Lad*:



*This is the land of
lost content,
I see it shining plain.
The happy highways
where I went
And cannot come again.*

[Learn more about Stonehill College history](#)

MWC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

FROGFOOT FARM

The Marion Institute's new farm in Wareham will provide produce for our local area food pantries. They have partnered with A.D. Makepeace Company to use a six-acre retired cranberry bog where they will practice regenerative farming and have a buffer zone of native plants as a habitat for pollinators. The organization focuses on advocating for food justice and promoting health equity.

The farm's Volunteer Coordinator will be on board by mid-April and those who are interested in volunteer opportunities can sign up at this link:

www.marioninstitute.org/programs/frogfoot-farm-neighbors-feeding-neighbors-volunteer-page

~ Jane Howard

VOLUNTEERING AT DAMIEN'S FOOD PANTRY

This is the front view of the new location of Damien's Food Pantry on the corner of Swifts Beach Rd and Route 6 in Wareham.

There are many opportunities to volunteer at the food pantry. We took about six grocery bags full of canned goods to them after our Stone Soup Lunch February 29th. Clients are able to grocery shop inside. They can pick what they want right off the shelves from different categories of goods. There are also frozen meats, and fresh produce, bread, milk and eggs.



Beginning in April there will also be gardening opportunities in their raised beds (located just beyond the parking lot to the right.)

From Damiens' website, "**Volunteers are the backbone of our program.** If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please phone the Pantry at: 508 295-3486 and leave your name and phone number or apply online at www.damiensfoodpantry.org".

[**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 (978-314-9206) if you're currently volunteering, or have in the past, we'd love to hear of your experience.

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Literature Group

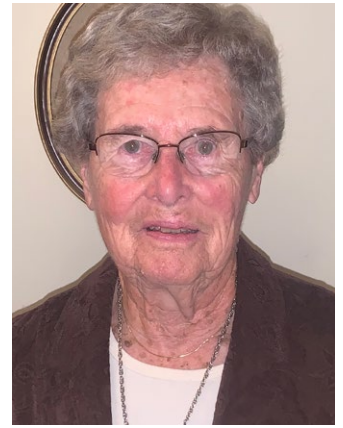
Wednesday, April 10, 9:30 am & 1:00 pm (please see details below)

The March meetings of the Literature Group were held on March 13, and again featured lively discussions.

The meeting date for April is Wednesday, April 10. The featured book will be *"The Postcard"* by Anne Berest.

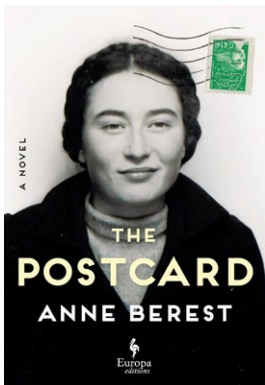
The Morning Group will meet at the home of Sherry Hoines, 150 North Street at 9:30 am. The Afternoon Group will gather at the home of Robin Lepore, 6 Seabreeze Lane at 1:00 pm.

In May, the final meeting of the club year on Wednesday, May 8, will feature a field trip to the New Bedford Public Library with the combined groups gathering at the Park & Ride to carpool and then lunch at a local restaurant following our library tour.



Peg Olney

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



Winner of the Choix Goncourt Prize, Anne Berest's The Postcard is a vivid portrait of twentieth-century Parisian intellectual and artistic life, an enthralling investigation into family secrets, and poignant tale of a Jewish family devastated by the Holocaust and partly restored through the power of storytelling.

January, 2003. Together with the usual holiday cards, an anonymous postcard is delivered to the Berest family home. On the front, a photo of the Opéra Garnier in Paris. On the back, the names of Anne Berest's maternal great-grandparents, Ephraïm and Emma, and their children, Noémie and Jacques—all killed at Auschwitz.

Fifteen years after the postcard is delivered, Anne, the heroine of this novel, is moved to discover who sent it and why. Aided by her chain-smoking mother, family members, friends, associates, a private detective, a graphologist, and many others, she embarks on a journey to discover the fate of the Rabinovitch family: their flight from Russia following the revolution, their journey to Latvia, Palestine, and Paris. What emerges is a moving saga that shatters long-held certainties about Anne's family, her country, and herself.

Knitting & Hand Crafts

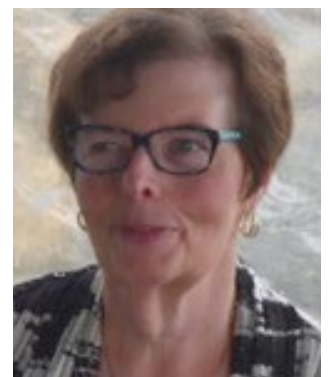
Thursday, April 25, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

The MWC Knitting and Handicraft Group will meet on Thursday, April 25th from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. This month we will meet at Bobbie Oakley's home, 21 Brant Beach Avenue.

We look forward to seeing you to compare ideas and projects. We also plan to share information about the new yarn shop that recently opened in Fairhaven, called The Yarn Lady. You can RSVP or direct any inquiries to Bobbie Oakley at oakleyr@comcast.net.

We welcome new members; give it a try! Bring your projects and join us for a pleasant, creative, and conversational afternoon.

~ Marie Rottler & Bobbie Oakley



Marie Rottler

Knitting Chair

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Bridge Group

Second and fourth Tuesdays, 1:00 pm

Games were held at Ann Butler's and Betty Ann Cannel's in March. April's hostesses will be Pat Goss and Elaine Grant.

If you enjoy the game of bridge, please consider joining our group. Please contact Elaine Grant.

~ Elaine Grant



Mah Jongg

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

Two-session introductory class: April 10 and April 17 at 1:00 - 3:00pm

Our partnership with the Council on Aging continues, and this year we've had more players over the winter than ever. Our sessions are held weekly on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm at the COA. Whether you have played the game before and need a refresher to get back to playing, or are entirely new to the game, come enjoy the camaraderie and fun of this ancient Chinese game.

There will be a two-session introductory class in APRIL which will teach you what you need to know and answer questions. Teaching will be done by MWC member, Mary Dermody, and COA Mah Jongg regulars, Tina Dolan and Susan Schenker, who will also share information about on-line options for practicing and playing. The game is played with a set of tiles which will be provided. All are welcome, including spouses, partners and the general public.



The two-class introduction will be on April 10 and April 17 at 1:00-3:00pm. NOTE: If you are a beginner, it is important to plan to attend the first class and stay for the full two hours to be sure to get all the background you will need. The second class will be entirely practice games. If you'd like to attend the first or both teaching sessions, call the COA (508-758-4110) to register, so we are sure to have sufficient materials for everyone. For the regular weekly sessions, drop-ins are always welcome. No commitment is needed, but be forewarned that the game has been known to be a moderately addictive exercise for the brain!

Contact Mary Dermody, marydermody@me.com (610) 937-7455,

NOTE: The general public is welcome and encouraged to attend. Sponsored by Mattapoisett Woman's Club and the Mattapoisett COA

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Walking Group

Fridays, 1:30 pm

Finally! Spring has arrived and our Walking Club was able to schedule and actually walk four times this month. Our group enjoyed walking along the Mattapoisett bike path, Stone Estate in Marion, Fairhaven bike path to Fort Phoenix, and Silver Shell beach in Marion. We have been walking paved routes during the winter months, but hope to add some woody trails as soon as “mud season” clears up.

Here’s a fun fact that we learned while walking the Fairhaven bike path: Have you heard about the “bike bus”? Well, the Fairhaven elementary school has a program where kids ride their bikes to school guided by a couple of adults. We encountered about 20 back-packed students gleefully riding home from school along the Fairhaven bike path. It was nice to see.

Hope you can join us on future walks. We meet on Fridays at 1:30 and all are welcome to join us. For further information or to be added to our email list, please contact Sue Mitchell.

~ Sue Mitchell



Deb Ward, Sue Mitchell, Robin LePore, Sharon Doyon, Maureen St.Amand, Sandy Hering, Erin Burlinson



More Than Just The Buzz

A Practical Guide to
Native Pollination System Conservation

*Presented by Dr. Robert Gear
Asst. Professor of Biology UMass Dartmouth*

Mattapoisett Free Public Library
Wednesday, May 15, 2024
6:00pm - 7:30pm

*Sponsored by
Mattapoisett Sustainability Partnership
Free and Open To All*



Mattapoisett Free Public Library
P. O. Box 475 | 7 Barstow Street
Mattapoisett, Massachusetts 02739 | 508-758-4171
www.MattapoisettLibrary.org

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group Happenings

Members of the Garden Group attended the Attleboro Arts Museum Flower Show Festivals Around the World: Gardens in Celebration, on March 22nd. The museum exhibit included a curated art collection, large themed installations incorporating flowers and other plant materials, roaming puppeteers from the Illuminate Creative Arts Company, thematic wall and sculptural art, musicians, children's art & craft workshops, a guitarist, and two working artists. This was a very interesting non-traditional flower show. A lot was happening in a very small space

Following our adventure at the museum, we went to the much praised Briggs Nursery. It didn't disappoint. The plants were all beautiful and strong and the large indoor shop offered many house and garden temptations. Sue Mitchell succeeded in purchasing pansies for the urns at the library. Others of us bought items for our home and gardens. The Briggs Café was our stop for lunch and we found that they serve breakfast all day. Next time, we won't stay to eat in the café, but will locate a table in the conservatory or among the many plants for sale.

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Our April 4th meeting will be a food treat. Chef Colby Rottler will be cooking and instructing! The library doors open at 10AM and there will be a brief business meeting while the chef sets up. Bring your appetite and a container for leftovers - there will be leftovers.

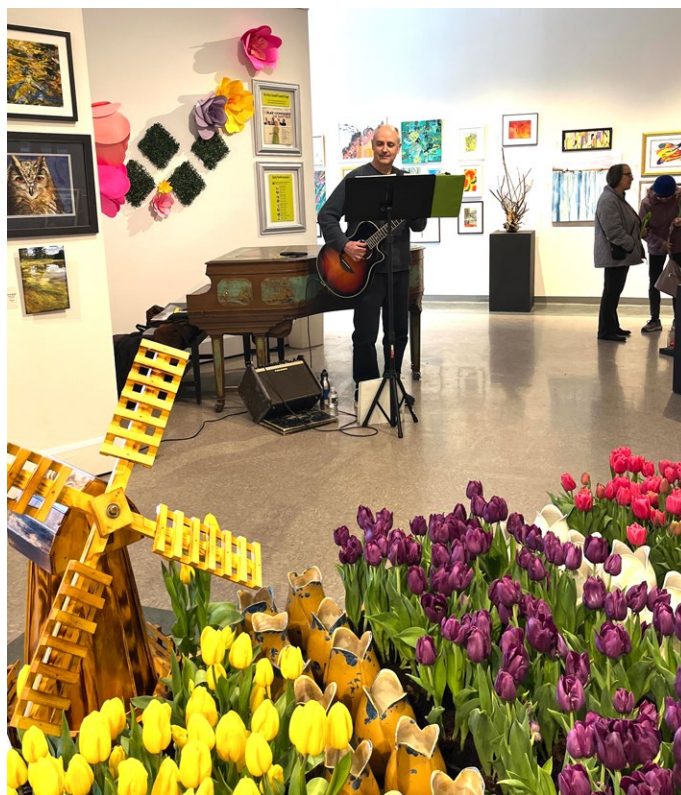
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On Friday, April 19th, the Garden Group will be going to Blithewold Mansion in Bristol, RI, for Daffodil Days. We'll meet at Park & Ride at 9 am. \$20 tickets can be purchased online or at the gate. We'll stop for lunch on the way home. Please contact Sherry Hoines at 508-971-1847 if you'd like to sign up.

Photo right from the Attleboro Arts Museum Flower Show Festivals Around the World: Gardens in Celebration. More pictures on page 11.



At Briggs Nursery after Attleboro Art Museum's Flower Show. Cindy Turse, Sue Mitchell, Pam Ragnar, Beth Inglis, and Erin Burlinson.



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group Happenings

Attleboro Arts Museum Flower Show
Festivals Around the World: Gardens in Celebration



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group Happenings

Canna Care Workshop

On another cold and rainy day in Mattapoisett, nine ladies from the Club gathered to learn how to grow Cannas, the beautiful flowering plant that the Garden Group uses at the Library and Wharf plantings in the summer.

Sharon Doyon taught the class, where we learned how a clump of tubers can be separated, foliage cleaned up, and checked for health, and the location of the eyes to pot up to start them for planting later this spring. Everyone helped to pot the tubers to give them an early start before planting in our Community Beautification projects this summer. Plus, everyone took pots and more tubers home to start their own collection for their gardens this year.

Thank you, Sharon, for great instruction and thanks to the participants for your help in starting our plants this year. A great way to cheer us up on a cold and rainy day!

Sandy Hering



Canna Care Workshop on March 23.

From left: Bobbie Oakley, Beth Inglis, Cheryl Guerrero, Robbin Peach, Michael and Christine Voss, Sharon Doyon (Instructor), Deb Ruel, and Rosemary Barrows.

Do you know someone who wants to compost?

There is interest in town from residents to bring curbside composting to Mattapoisett. At this time we need 60 more residents to pre-register to consider starting a route. We would love to get to this number, but need your help. If you know someone who may also be interested in curbside compost collection, encourage them to preregister through the sign-up form on the Black Earth Compost website. There is no financial commitment.

How You Can Help Get the Word Out

1. Share this flyer on social media with the following copy: Let's bring curbside composting to Mattapoisett. Composting is the easiest thing we can do to reduce waste. Preregister through the sign up form at blackearthcompost.com/create-account (no financial commitment).
2. Start some chatter. Bring composting up at your next dinner party when you are cleaning up and tossing your leftovers in the trash.

Curbside Collection Subscription Plans

Every other week pick-ups start at \$16.99/month or \$89.99/ 6 months. Plus the cost of the curbside bin.

**Watch the Video
The Why, What and How
of Composting with Black Earth**

Let's get Mattapoisett composting!

Thanks for you help,
Black Earth Compost

www.blackearthcompost.com

Full Circle Sustainability



Bring Food Scrap Collection to Mattapoisett

Reduce Your Waste by Up To 40%



Compost more than a backyard pile. Include meat, bones, dairy, certified compostable products and more.



Receive finished compost in the spring. Order delivery of bulk compost, soil blends and raised beds online.

Pre-register at blackearthcompost.com to get a route started.

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Ladies Who Lunch

It began as another cold, rainy, windy and, yes, dreary morning, and without our first few steps into Freestone's City Grill, it might well have turned out to be so much like the many preceding it. But one feel of the warmth of the newly re-done, storied establishment, and the sight and sound of an exuberant Ros Barrow waiting for us, we knew our afternoon would be unlike the outside world.

There were just five of us who braved the elements: Ros Barrow, Peg Olney, Diane Brown-Couture, Ann Tisdale and me; and a lively little band we were! As we sat there among the artifices of its old heydays, the stories of New Bedford, Mattapoissett, and the Club gone by were many. Most of all, as usual, it was the laughter that was the best part of the lunchtime chatter.

Our fare varied from a delicious Black and Blue Burger, the aroma of which alone was worth the price, to Fish and Chips that drew rave reviews, and other options with lovely presentations and taste and smells. Everyone seemed to be more than satisfied with their meals--until one of us (who shall remain nameless) ordered what sounded to be a reasonably portioned warm blueberry cobbler laden with vanilla ice cream and a fresh blueberry topping. Since it turned out to be far more than enough for one, we shared this sumptuous dessert all around. It was the perfect ending to a wonderful meal that turned out to be every bit as delicious as it looked.

As you read this issue of Ladies Choice, the March meeting of the LWL will have taken place on MARCH 27 at Turk's. Keep an eye open for information about where the APRIL 24 luncheon will be. The suggestion that we continue to meet through the summer has been met with wide enthusiasm, so we're in the market for suggestions as to good summer locations. We are open to all ideas, from beach picnics—bring-along or catered--or places with outdoor seating such as the Black Whale. We're hoping to save the indoor places for inclement (read winter) weather and take advantage of the great summertime panorama of special places that we enjoy in such a wonderful location. The only caution is that suggested places should be able to handle a crowd of about 10 to 20 people as we're going to expand for the summer so that you can bring guests with you. How's that for a turn of events! Talk also has been voiced that we have two meetings to accommodate more people, which sounds more than fine with me.

When you're ready to reserve seats at the table, just call me, Kate Brown, at (508) 758-3229.

~Kate Brown



*On left: Peg Olney, Kate Brown
On right: Ann Tisdale, Ros Barrows,
Diane Brown-Couture*

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Great Decisions

“Pandemic Preparedness” was the final topic of our program led by Dr. Edward Hoffer, Chair of Marion’s Board of Health. Dr. Hoffer earned his BS from MIT and his medical degree from Harvard Medical School. He maintained a private practice of Cardiology and Internal Medicine in Framingham and is now an Associate Clinical Professor at Harvard.

Dr. Hoffer stressed the importance of realizing that it is not IF but WHEN we will experience another pandemic. He emphasized how critical vaccines are for safety, in that they reduce the likelihood of new variants and help ensure there will be less severe diseases and deaths. Dr. Hoffer’s wife Madeleine participated in our lively discussion period held in the Library’s conference room and on ZOOM. Many thanks go to Dr. Hoffer.

Our group visited the New Bedford Art Museum on March 13 and toured the current exhibition, “*Envision Resilience*,” curated by Charlotte Van Voorhis of Mattapoisett. We discussed how young college students of architecture looked at plans to build a future New Bedford Community to help combat the challenge of climate changes, and how we all can contribute to the resilience of climate challenges.

Again, I would like to say that this 2024 Great Decisions program has been one of the most rewarding and dynamic groups I’ve had the pleasure of leading. A special thanks to Richard Van Inwegen for taking the attached photos.

Sincerely,

Ellen P. Flynn

*Past President and
Chair of Great Decisions
Mattapoisett Woman’s Club*

elflynn@vassar.edu



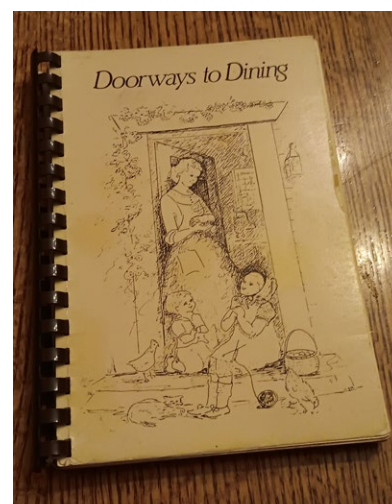
Ellen Flynn

*Chair of Great Decisions,
Past MWC President,
and Director & Chair of
the Education Committee,
Mattapoisett Land Trust*



Fourth from left, center special Guest Dr. Edward Hoffer next to him wife Madeleine.

This recipe is from "*Doorways to Dining*", a cookbook published by MWC in 1985 as a scholarship fundraiser. The book is illustrated with drawings of historic Mattapoisett doorways done by MWC member artists. I found my copy at a yard sale. The recipe was submitted by Past President Evelyn Jenks and was served at the February luncheon meeting.



PUMPKIN BARS

4 eggs	2 tsp. baking powder
1 & 2/3 cup granulated sugar	2 tsp. cinnamon
1 cup cooking oil	1 tsp. salt
1 (15 oz.) can pumpkin	1 tsp. baking soda
2 cups all purpose flour	

1. In a mixing bowl, beat together eggs, granulated sugar, oil and pumpkin until light and fluffy. Beat for 5 minutes or more. This step is tedious but important for the end result. Use a stand mixer if you have one.
2. Stir together flour, baking powder, cinnamon, salt and baking soda.
3. Add to the pumpkin mixture and hand mix. Do not overmix.
4. Spread batter in ungreased 15x10x1 inch pan (jelly roll pan)
5. Bake at 350° for 25 to 30 minutes.
6. Cool, then frost with Cream Cheese Icing

Cream Cheese Icing

1 3 oz. package cream cheese, softened	1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened	2 cups sifted confectioner's sugar

1. Cream together cream cheese and butter or margarine
2. Stir in vanilla
3. Add confectioner's sugar, a little at a time, beating well until the mixture is smooth

Note: Using the jelly roll pan for baking makes a thinner sheet cake that can be cut into many smaller pieces. It can also be baked in a 9x13 pan to make a thicker cake that can be served in larger pieces. The baking time may have to be adjusted.

~ Peg Olney

March Luncheon

On the second day of Spring with temperatures in the 30's and gusty winds, 57 of us were welcomed into a warm, bright decorative motif of sunny daffodils and springlike table settings. Kathy Saunders and her committee provided a tasty array of finger sandwiches, salads and desserts.

Fire Chief Andrew Murray spoke of how a horrible childhood accident, requiring the assistance of emergency workers, sparked his goal of public service. He then talked about how the new fire station and equipment played a major role in fighting the town's biggest fire at the Mattapoissett Boat Yard, which required the help of 200 area personnel from 23 towns. His crew are ready to assist our townspeople with inspections, advice and, of course, emergency fire services.

President Sandy Hering highlighted the Club's financial strength which allows us to continue our scholarship program and community donations. Bobbie Ketchel and Linda Clifford of the Nominating Committee filled the open positions of officers who will be sworn in next month. See the tear-out sheet on page 2 for making your luncheon reservation at the Wamsutta Club on April 18th. Kristen McCormack and Katherine Gaudet of the Ad Hoc Community Engagement Committee are conducting a survey to assess the interests of our members and integrate working women into the Club. Lois Ennis stressed how total involvement is necessary for Taste of the Town, our biggest fundraiser.



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Sandra Hering

Vice President
Kate Brown

Recording Secretary
Sherry Hoines

Corresponding Secretary
Elaine Grant

Treasurer
Beth Inglis

Assistant Treasurer
Lois K. Ennis

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2025 Linda Clifford
2026 Roxanne Bungert

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Facebook Cindy Turse
Ladies' Choice Elaine Grant
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Special Committee Chair

Great Decisions
Ellen Flynn

Greetings & Remembrances
Linda Clifford

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2024-2025 Jan Hubley
2025-2026 Alice Openshaw

Audit Committee
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*

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