

September 2024 VOLUME LXIII No. 1

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Club Members,



There are flowers enough in the summertime, More flowers than I can remember, But none with the purple, gold, red, and lime That glows in flowers from September!

—Mary Howitt, Poet and Writer, 1799-1888

September, coming from the Latin septem meaning seventh, was indeed the seventh month of the Roman calendar but became the ninth with the calendar's revision. It is also the month of the Harvest Moon. In fact, in Old England, September was called Haervest-monath (Harvest Month), meaning the time to gather up the rest of the harvest and prepare for the winter months ahead.



Kate Brown *President, MWC*

With September's arrival comes the feeling that the last bit of summer is upon us. Though not yet crisp, the air hints at cooler weather, the days are shorter and the nights longer. There are acorns underfoot and the smell of burning leaves hangs in the air. With them in our senses and our minds, we know that fall is not far behind, and we welcome this time of transition with thoughts of the possible changes and challenges ahead, to wit:

September is a special time of new beginnings; a time to

Enervate yourself and your curiosity to find out what's new and different.

Put aside that old, dusty stuff and get ready for adventurous new starts.

Take time to think about you and what you want to accomplish this month.

Energize old plans – and yourself – to take on a lately discovered challenge.

Make the most of that new beginning you've been reluctant to consider.

Burrow down 'til you find the nucleus of your "second look" ideas.

Examine those ideas, make them your own, and then go with them.

Revisit, review, revise, and have the courage to make those plans yours!

For more about the holidays, fun, and folklore about September, have a good time reading this from The Old Farmer's Almanac <u>www.almanac.com/content/month-september-holidays-fun-facts-folklore</u>

They are enjoyable articles, especially if you read them while thinking about what they and the tales and folklore that they highlight might mean to you. We sure do hope that we'll see everyone on **Thursday**, **September 19** at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church, as we celebrate our own new beginning with our Annual Potluck Luncheon and meeting. See you then!

Kate Brown

MWC President

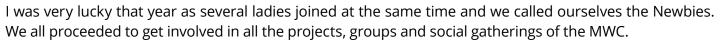
HOW I GOT TO THE MWC

Growing up in Arlington, I was one of seven children. Bill and I have been married for 60 years and have five children and eight grandkids.

I have been coming to Mattapoisett for 55 years, the first few as a renter, the majority as a seasonal homeowner, the rest as a year-round resident. We had decided when the family was grown, we would retire and live in Mattapoisett.

My husband built us a little Cape and the kids took over the cottage. As we settled in, it didn't take long to realize that when all my friends and neighbors left when summer was over, I didn't know anybody and I had to get out and about.

I signed up as an usher at the Zeiterion Theater in New Bedford and loved it. Volunteering at Gifts to Give in Acushnet is very rewarding. I became a parishioner at St Anthony's Parish and joined the Mattapoisett Woman's Club.



Over the years I have served on the Scholarship Committee which was very enjoyable and I recommend to all new members. I joined the Garden Group, a very active and fun group, and ended up leading it for a few years. I organized the Bells of Remembrance project for the club for several years. I am still involved in Taste of the Town, served on the Garden Tour Committee, Yard Sale fundraiser and, of course, participate in the cocktail socials as often as available, I was also involved in the newly-formed group that worked so hard to keep members feeling involved and thought of during the Pandemic. It has disbanded but I feel it was very effective and a wonderfully successful service to our members . We were all proud of that.

Over the years I have made so many friends, wonderful ladies and their spouses.

Of all the groups I delved into it is my membership in the MWC that has made me feel part of this community. I now know people when I go to the Post Office, the grocery store, the Library or for a walk. There's always a nice Hi or a smile.

The people I've met and friendships I've enjoyed have made Mattapoisett HOME to me. I wish nothing more than that for every new member who is joining. Just jump in and get your feet wet; you won't regret it. Mattapoisett Is Special.

Mary O'Keefe

MWC News & Information

GREETINGS AND REMEMBRANCES

Thank you to all who have informed me of various notable happenings in our members' lives. Without your input, these important communications would not happen. A card, short note and most often both can make a difficult day a little brighter. So, I ask that you continue to be aware of other MWC members and the occasions of good or bad that should be acknowledged. As always, confidentiality is of the utmost importance.

Linda Clifford

Cell: 508-207-6572 Email: tilly_ralph@hotmail.com

ATTENTION BARGAIN HUNTERS:

On September 7, our friends at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church are having their annual Yard Sale from 9am - 1pm.

Stop by and perhaps you'll find a treasure.

MWC News & Information

DID YOU KNOW?

Mattapoisett Womans' Club member Elaine Botelho was once an NFL Cheerleader for the Atlanta Falcons in 1966 while attending Georgia State University. Following that NFL season, she married her husband Michael and embarked on life as a military spouse for the next twenty years, raising 4 children along the way and travelling the world.

After the military, Elaine embarked on a career of her own as an elementary school teacher for 20 years in Whitman-Hanson before moving to Mattapoisett in 2005.

Since 2008 Elaine has joined fellow Atlanta Falcon Cheer alums in pregame and halftime cheer performances at Atlanta's Georgia Dome and Mercedes Benz Stadium.

Recently, she had the great opportunity to attend the 2024 National Football Cheerleaders Alumni Reunion in Boston on July 19th and 20th at the Hilton Park Plaza Hotel. Elaine reports that she was happy to join 600 former NFL Cheerleaders representing 24 NFL football teams from all over the country. The attendees and their guests enjoyed a Spirit of Boston cruise for an afternoon, a big pep rally, line dancing, brunch, Duck Tour, and Gala with dinner, presentations, and dancing for a whole evening.

Cheers! Elaine Botelho

Top photo: Elaine front row right.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Are you looking for a rewarding opportunity to give to your community?

Do you believe in the power of education to change lives? If so, the New Bedford Shining Lights ESOL Adult Program invites you to join their team of dedicated volunteers!

The Adult Education Programs, including ESOL, and Childcare Services are in search of enthusiastic volunteers who are passionate about teaching, mentoring and supporting adult learners on their educational journeys.

For more information, contact Mali Lin @ 508-951-3020 or Olga Rodriguez-Morales @ 508-245-9687

POTLUCK SEPTEMBER MEETING

SEPTEMBER 19TH • 11 AM • REYNARD HALL, MATTAPOISETT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

MWC News & Information

MATTAPOISETT WOMAN'S CLUB 2024 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that Mattapoisett residents Rylie Coughlin and Jaymison Gunschel are the winners of the 2024 MWC scholarships awarded to graduating high school seniors. Rosemary Williams is the recipient of the continuing education scholarship, reserved for a Mattapoisett resident who is re-entering the academic world in pursuit of a post-secondary degree or certification.

Rylie is a 2024 graduate from ORR High School. She plans to attend the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and will be majoring in English. Jaymison is also a 2024 graduate from ORR High School. He plans to attend American University in Washington, D.C. with a major in Political Science. Both students were standout candidates based on their community involvement, commitment to volunteerism, academics, and future aspirations.

Rosemary is currently attending Simmons University working towards a master's degree in social work. She is entering her final semester and will be finishing her degree this December. She is a mother of 3 and a certified music therapist.

It has been an absolute joy to serve on the scholarship committee these past 3 years. I look forward to joining the committee again one day in the future and I highly recommend and encourage others to join as well. We are fortunate to have so many fantastic young people in our community! Thank you!

~ Bethany Couto

From top to bottom:

Scholarship Committee member Bethany Couto with Scholarship recipients Rylie Coughlin, Jaymison Gunschel and Rosemary Williams.







Literature Group

We are looking forward to our September Literature Group meeting, to see everyone again after the Summer and plan for the new club year. We will gather at the Library Meeting Room on Wednesday, September 11 at 10:00 am. This will be a large group meeting for all current members and anyone interested in becoming a new member.

We will be discussing the meeting formats and sign up for the morning or afternoon discussion groups. We will also choose the book selections for this year's meetings and ask for volunteers to host a meeting in their home. Please bring your suggestions for discussion books, a beverage of your choice and be willing to volunteer! The regular meeting time for this club interest group is the second Wednesday of each month from September through May. Hope to see you on September 11!



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

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

~ Peg Olney

Ladies Who Lunch

The Ladies Who Lunch broke tradition and went out to lunch on August 20, a Tuesday, and we had a marvelous time on the porch at the Sail Loft in South Dartmouth! As you can probably guess, seafood was the order of the day and did we ever enjoy every bite of everything that appeared before us. Our waitress, a New Bedford third grade teacher, made our day with her vibrant personality and excellent service.

All of us were new to the Sail Loft, and each of us honestly gasped as we were ushered out to the porch, that's how



perfect the setting was. Nautical decor in blues and white, flowers on every table, and that feeling of 'this is going to be a good lunch' hit immediately as we stepped onto the shiny wooden deck. After being seated, we perused the menu, and so began the ooh's and aah's as we each found a different special seafood treat for the afternoon's meal. From appetizers though the three desserts we shared, everyone declared their choice perfect! And the laughter and chatter that accompanied the meal made it all the better.

Maybe it was sitting on the porch at the Sail Loft, looking out at the boats bobbing in the sunshine that glistened on the water of Padanaram's harbor that day that made our outing so special? Rather, I think it was the location plus the wonderful company of good friends with whom we shared a wonderful lunch that made it so memorable! We had such fun that we decided that September's outing should be to a similar spot, which it will be as we are headed to the Lobster Trap in Bourne later this month for another outdoor dining adventure while the weather is still on our side. Won't you please join us on Wednesday, September 25, noon, the Lobster Trap restaurant in Bourne with carpooling from Mattapoisett's Park & Ride? We'd love to have your company, too, for another outstanding outing!

~ Kate Brown

Bridge Group

In the past, the Bridge Group was comprised of 8 "regular" players and a few "subs" who met on the second and fourth Tuesdays at the hostess' home for an afternoon of bridge and refreshments. Hosting was on a rotating basis.

Unfortunately, at this writing we are looking for more players, either as a regular or a substitute. Due to busy schedules, a monthly meeting might be more desirable.



If you'd like to join us, please contact Elaine Grant at grant5687@comcast.net

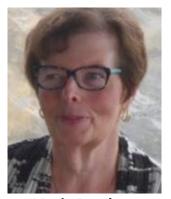
~ Elaine Grant

Knitting & Hand Crafts

The MWC Knitting and Hand Crafts Group will meet on Thursday, September 26th from 2-4pm. This month's location will be at Marie Rottler's home, 23 Channel Street in Mattapoisett. We look forward to seeing you to share projects and ideas. 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 & Hand Crafts Chair

Mah Jongg

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

Our Mah Jongg partnership with the Council on Aging continued to stay strong last year, and has ebbed and flowed like the tides over the summer. We anticipate active participation as the fall begins. Anyone

who attended last year, or is interested in learning more, should plan to come to one of the regular weekly Mah Jongg sessions at the COA. We play non-competitively and there are never any partners to disappoint. If you missed the last year's instruction sessions, watch for more information..

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



Walking Group

Yes, it is now a tradition (or rite of passage for some). On Wednesday, August 21 Sue Mitchell, Mary Dermody and friends joined up with Antassawamock neighbors to trek out to Ram Island. As many of you know, Ram Island is a small island off Mattapoisett Neck. At low tide one can walk to it by following a few sand bars. Yes, we do get wet, but we also get self-satisfaction.

Not all our walks are this adventurous, tho. From September until May we usually walk for about an hour or two each week at places like the Mattapoisett bike path, Stone Estate (in Marion), Hurricane Dike in New Bedford, various Land Trust wooded trails, etc. All are welcome. If you know of a scenic walk (and there are many around here!) please let me know. If you would like to join us, just contact me and I'll add you to our email list. All levels of walkers are welcome.

Our next walk will be Friday, September 20 at 10:00 am on the Mattapoisett bike path. Meet at the parking lot on Depot Street. Hope to see you.

~ Sue Mitchell

Photos taken by landlubbers Cindy and Jim Turse.





Garden Group Wednesday, September 4 10:00 am Mattaposett Library

Our first in-person meeting is September 4th, 10 AM, at the Mattapoisett Library. Ellen Flynn, Garden Group member, former president of MWC, and a passionate Ikenobo Ikebana flower-arranging student, will demonstrate this centuries-old Japanese technique. The library opens at 10:00, so we'll socialize and conduct business while Ellen sets up. Please bring your favorite beverage to enjoy with refreshments. New members are always welcome!

If you haven't already paid your dues (\$10), you can pay them at this meeting. See Beth Inglis with your check or cash.

On October 2nd our presenter will be Nancy Masson. The program is in-person with a fascinating PowerPoint featuring water garden designs.

A BIG THANK-YOU to all volunteers who kept "our" Mattapoisett containers and gardens in bloom this summer, and special thanks to Elaine Botelho and her friend, Deanne Girouard, for being the sole guardians of the Beach House window boxes which they designed, planted, and watered. Soon the window boxes, urns, and gardens will take on the looks and colors of fall.

~ Cindy Turse





Social Cocktail Group

Friday, September 20 5:00 - 7:00 pm

The first Social Cocktail gathering of the 2024-25 MWC season will be held on Friday, September 20, from 5-7PM at the home of Blaise Simpson. Guests are asked to bring their beverage of choice and an appetizer to share. The gathering will take place outside on the porch and in the yard. Bring a guest if you wish.

Blaise's address is 6R North Street behind 6 North Street. Parking is available on the right side of North Street (please do not block driveways) or in the Town Beach lot. For folks with limited mobility, parking is also available for about 6 cars on the right side of Blaise's driveway and in her neighbor's driveway at 4 North St. (4 cars only). To reach the house, walk the length of the driveway next to 6 North.

For this event, please RSVP directly to Blaise: blaises@yahoo.com or call 508-758-8465 or cell 415-367-5362.

The social gatherings are held 3-4 times during the year (January/February, April/May, September/October and early December). Please consider hosting an evening so these gatherings can continue. They are certainly a casual, relaxed opportunity to become acquainted with other club members. Questions, please contact Linda Clifford 508-207-6572 or email tilly ralph@hotmail.com.

~ Linda Clifford

Garden Group Happenings

"Lady Rosemary Summer-Thyme"

The Garden Club challenge for this year's 2024 Newport Flower Show was to create an herb or vegetable-themed garden. To house the garden each group was provided with an identical garden cart with rules that the display be primarily 60% herbs or vegetables. The rest of the composition was up to the team of Sharon Doyon and Susan Perkins of the Garden Group.

The focal point of their entry was a Grecian styled woman's head planter. Susan thought it reminded her of the gilded age of Newport and appropriate for the Breaker's Mansion location of the show. Displays were judged on the variety and quality of plant material used, identification key card and an overall pleasing

design. Plant materials were diverse and included several kinds of sage, creeping rosemary, lavenders, and mint. Both described this project as a tough one, trying to get the plants to grow and mesh well together into a design-worthy arrangement.

Our Lady proved to be a little too "new" looking so a faux paint finish was applied to make her appear like an aged garden statue. The bottom shelf of the cart featured her accessories: a floral purse, delicate thyme-filled shoes and lace fan. After careful nurturing, pruning, battling bug infestations and last minute additions, "Lady Rosemary Summer-Thyme" came to be! Sharon's daughter Nicole created her wonderful name as befitting a Newport grande dame.

Though it was challenging, both enjoyed the creative process and working together. Their efforts paid off as they were awarded a Second Place Ribbon. Afterwards the herbs were replanted into various herb container gardens which were sold to the public. Happy to say all expenses were covered and a donation was made to our club.



Daffodils Are Coming!

This fall the Mattapoisett Woman's Club will be preselling mixed daffodil bulbs.

Bulbs will be 12-14 cm in size with a guaranteed blend of 6 different types.



The All Season Daffodil Collection will include:

- Dutch Master
- Improved King Alfred
- Barrett Browning
- Sempre Avanti
- Red Devon
- Yellow Cheerfulness

Only 50 bags will be available. Each bag will contain 15 bulbs for \$10.

Delivery is scheduled for mid October.

To reserve bulbs, **sign up at the September "Welcome Back Luncheon" or contact Beth Inglis** at <u>beth.inglis@comcast.net</u>.

Taste of the Town

It's July 16 in Shipyard Park. Finally, it's 5:00 PM and the ticket sales begin in earnest as the line of hungry diners buy their 10 for \$10 tickets for the 2024 Taste of the Town.

As always, the diners were not disappointed! An overflow crowd feasted happily on seafood, sliders, and other specialties, ending their evening's meals with cookies and ice cream, all from the nearly dozen participating Mattapoisett restaurants. Judging from the expressions of satisfaction seen and heard, the memory of the wait for tickets was long gone as diners tasted and enjoyed the wonderful choices offered at this year's Taste of the Town.

The music provided by the Showstoppers had people singing along and it did the heart good to watch Moms and Dads playing with their kids, extended families enjoying an evening together, and neighbors meeting up with old friends. It seemed as if a good time was had by all!

As for the MWC, suffice it to say that this year set a record for meeting our fundraising goal, the beneficiaries of which are our two scholarship programs: the first for college-bound high school students and the other is for a student re-entering the academic world. Add to that the sum made from the sale of the lovely table flower arrangements by the Garden Group, and it could easily be said that the evening was a very successful one for the Club!

Thanks to all the merchants who helped to produce this year's Taste and especially to all the MWC members who helped out at the event because debriefing comments indicated that everyone had a very enjoyable evening!

~ Kate Brown

Ladies, first let me express my extreme thanks to all the restaurants who provided food right up to the 7PM deadline. That was a vast improvement over previous Tastes. I ask that you please patronize those establishments and express your thanks.

Secondly, my thanks to all club members and others who worked diligently before the Taste; the two days prior in preparation for the Taste; the two hours of Taste performing all the multi details that made the Taste successful; and, finally, for leaving the area after the Taste in pristine condition. All your efforts produced the most successful Taste ever!

To view the some of the highlights of this year's Taste, go to Google and type in:

Youtube MattapoisettTaste and choose A Taste of Mattapoisett 2024 or click here!

Again, my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your efforts and support for the Taste of the Town of 2024.

Lois K. Ennis Chair, Taste of the Town









Pies for sale!

The enthusiastic group of members who worked at the MWC booth under the big tent at Harbor Days on Saturday, July 20, sold all of the pies made at the 3 parties--a total of 73 pies! Strawberry rhubarb, apple, peach, blueberry, and mixed berry were scrumptious to the last bite.

One customer who came by the booth was the daughter of Thelma Knight, one of the founders of our Club. She also mentioned that she was a scholarship recipient 50 years ago. She visits Mattapoisett during Harbor Days just to buy a pie!

If you haven't yet taken part in a Pie Party, it is a very festive two hours when, under the direction of Pie Captains Robin Lepore, Blaise Simpson, and Cindy Johnson, each with a group of about 10 ladies, gathered in the newly air-conditioned kitchen at the Mattapoisett Congregational Church, and crafted the pies. Thanks to Pastor Michael of the MCC and Cindy Johnson's gift of an air conditioner this year, the making and baking of the pies were most comfortable. Though there was a good bit of hard work involved, there was also a lot of laughter, despite the 90 degree weather outside.

In addition to the pies sold on Saturday, there were 13 pies made by Peg Olney with the help



of Beth Inglis and Kristen McCormack. The strawberry-rhubarb, blueberry and apple pies were sold frozen to Peg's neighbors. The total number--86--was a record which exceeded expectations for 2024! All proceeds are for the benefit of the Scholarship Fund.

None of this would be possible without the generous donations of our sponsors who contributed in-kind materials and gift cards with which we were able to purchase the fruit and pie supplies. Our supporters included the Shipyard Galley, Walmart in Fairhaven and Wareham, Shaw's in Wareham, Stop & Shop in Fairhaven and Dartmouth, Market Basket, PriceRite and Sid Wainer's in New Bedford and COSTCO in Avon. Please remember their generosity when you do your grocery shopping.

~ Kate Brown

Silent Auction

Several years ago, Brad Hathaway donated three beautiful watercolors painted by his beloved wife, Priscilla, to the Mattapoisett Woman's Club. It was his hope that the sale of these artworks would support the Club financially and serve as a memorial to Priscilla, who was a longtime, dedicated member. Brad's wish came to fruition at Harbor Days this year, when three members of MWC, Barbara Van Inwegen, Sandy Hering and Peg Olney were the high bidders at our Silent Auction which took place under the big white tent on Sunday, July 21st, bringing \$375 into our coffers.

Beth Inglis did a great job selecting the frames for each painting that beautifully highlighted Priscilla's subjects. The accompanying photos show auctioneer Cindy Johnson assuring that the paintings were true works of art whose value was sure to increase in the years to come. Son David is holding Sandy's purchase, Brad has Barb's choice and son Josh is with Peg's. According to Peg, "The frame I have is perfect for





the painting and is another reason why I liked it. Now I have to decide where to hang it. I chose the painting of narcissus in an old brown coffee pot because Priscilla's yard was always full of narcissus in the spring and she was always generous in sharing the bulbs."

Sandy wrote "I love mine and will think of Priscilla and Brad every time I look at it." It is of an unusual peach-colored rhododendron from the Hathaway property. She recalls Priscilla telling her that the white daffodils at the Friends Meeting House were a gift from the Falmouth Friends of the Quakers who built the Meeting House.

Priscilla, Ann Shepley and Peg Olney were integral to the garden group when Barb joined in 2012. She wrote, "They were a terrific team who kept us moving and motivated. Priscilla always had a friendly smile and kind words. I chose the pink hollyhocks by the rock wall bordering the water with boats bobbing nearby."

An accomplished artist, Priscilla lent her talent to the Club with her sketches which appeared in the Club's publication of the "Doorways to Dining" cookbook back in 1985, which many of us still use with fond memories of Priscilla.

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