



LADIES CHOICE

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Newsletter

www.MattapoissettWomansClub.org

October 2024
VOLUME LXIII No. 2

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Club Members,

The Dall Garden is no more. No, I didn't hit an "o" instead of an "a." I am talking about the famous Barbie Doll Garden created by Teresa Dall almost 30 years ago. Mrs. Dall, as legions of ORR graduates and others knew her, sadly passed away on September 4, 2023, two months after the Barbie movie was released. With her passing though the Barbie Garden is gone, its spirit lives on in our memories.

Before you read on, here are two links about the Dall Garden, the first one is what Teresa's husband Mark, said about the Garden. The second link is a series of 2022 photographs, which you are strongly urged to look at before you read the rest of this letter since it may help you to understand Mrs. Dall's objectives in designing and setting up her Garden each summer.

It was her way of expressing her deep passion about women and their empowerment which now is sadly in a latent stage to some degree.

<https://wcy.com/ixp/518/p/mattapoissett-barbie-garden-teresa-dall/>

<https://fun107.com/mattapoissetts-famous-barbie-garden-2022/>

As much as the woman's movement was a marvel in its several iterations over the years, too many women have remained ignorant about their own innate abilities and power. We have witnessed many relatively minor and even a few major eruptions. The days of marches, burning bras, Gloria Steinem, Jane Fonda, etc., are over, replaced by improvements in women's positions in the world combined with the ever so slowly growing respect for women among members of the opposite sex(es). Progress has been made, but there is still much to accomplish before women and others take their place on an equal playing field.

Allow me to loudly proclaim that the Mattapoissett Woman's Club has always been, and will continue to be, an organization for and about women who, by their example, involvement and selflessness, have brought the best about women to the attention of the citizens of this area. Through the efforts of quiet women like Mrs. Dall, the women in this Club have stood out and have been strong. Through our continuing efforts to raise the image of women, we are constantly provided with the fortitude to continue to champion womanhood as did our foremothers and others sympathetic to the cause of women's empowerment.

Kate Brown
MWC President



Kate Brown
President, MWC

HOW I GOT TO THE MWC

My name is Dorothy (Washburn) Schwarz. I grew up in Marion and graduated from ORRHHS. I then attended Lowell University where I met my husband, Dick. After graduating he was offered a mechanical engineering position at Pratt and Whitney in East Hartford, CT.

We then married and started our new life together in Enfield, CT. After our fourth child was born we moved to Somers, CT where we built a much-needed larger home. During those years I enjoyed being a Sunday school teacher at our Congregational church and a teacher's helper in our elementary school system. Our children kept us very busy with their competitive sports and dancing. I worked part-time in clothing retail and especially enjoyed creating displays and assisting with fashion shows. Sadly, in 1994 Dick passed away.

A few years later I met David. After spending time together, we realized we had many similar interests, one being our love for this Southcoast area of MA. In 2006 we purchased our fixer-upper in Brandt Beach. Almost every weekend we traveled from CT. to create our dream home. In 2018 we moved here full time. Being part of the Woman's Club in Connecticut gave me the idea to attend a Mattapoisett Woman's Club meeting.

Right away I realized these women were a caring and devoted group who were totally committed to our community. I became a member that day and I am delighted that I did! (As Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz says, "There is no place like home!") I've participated in many of the club's events and now have joined Sharon Doyon on the Membership Committee.

Dottie Schwarz



MWC News & Information

INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

It was worth it to wake up early, especially on the morning of Wednesday, September 4, 2024. I stepped outside and witnessed two amazing sights: the conjunction of the planets Mars and Jupiter, and shortly after, the International Space Station - the living quarters for astronauts and cosmonauts - glided past gracefully and silently. The Space Station is a one-of-a-kind scientific laboratory made of components assembled in space by astronauts. It orbits about 250 miles above Earth, traveling at a speed of 17,500 miles per hour. It's incredible to think that a Space Station the size of a five-bedroom house, covering the area of a football field and accommodating a crew of six plus visitors, orbits our planet every ninety minutes, conducting experiments to improve life on Earth and advancing space exploration.



~ Eileen J. Marum

GOLF BALL FUNDRAISER

Do you or a friend need golf balls?

At our October meeting, we'll have a new fundraiser! Gently used golf balls...\$10 a dozen.

As Robin Lepore lives next to Reservation Golf Club, lots of balls end up in her garden.

As new balls can go for \$6 apiece, this is a real deal! Plus another income source for the club.

MWC News & Information

October 17th Luncheon Program: Art for Your Mind by Jill Sanford

Jill Sanford is the creator and primary presenter of Art For Your Mind programs. She holds a Bachelor of Arts cum laude in Art History from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Jill has a background in arts administration and graphic design, and she has more than 20 years of experience presenting art enrichment. Jill has a passion for making art history and art appreciation enjoyable and accessible for people of all ages and backgrounds.

Art For Your Mind is an engaging, educational, art observation experience designed to broaden the minds of its participants. Jill Sanford will present: Massachusetts' Art Revealed: From the Pilgrims to modern skylines, Massachusetts' people, events, architecture, industries, and landforms are represented by artists in surprising ways. Experience some well-known history as well as some lesser-known events and places through the eyes of the artist - all part of the commonwealth's interesting story.

Eileen Marum



BEWARE OF SCAM PHONE CALLS

Always be suspicious of any calls you receive from unknown phone numbers or names you don't recognize on your caller ID. It is safer to let the call go to voicemail. It is not wise to return the call to the number provided. If the call is legitimate, they will call again with more information.

A recent scam involved a caller allegedly from CVS calling to update medical records. CVS Security says "CVS Pharmacy will never call and request this type of information from our customers. Do not provide personal information to anyone you do not know."

Thanks to Cindy Turse for this reminder.

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

OCTOBER 17 MEETING TEA COMMITTEE

Hostess: Susan Perkins

Committee: Elaine Botelho,
Diane Brown-Couture, Elaine Grant,
Kristen Henriques, Barbara Jasmin, Robin
Lepore, Kathy McAuliffe, Kristen McCormack,
Roberta Oakley, Dottie Schwarz,
Maureen St. Armand, Ruth Ann Walega

Ladies, please refer to pages 40-43 in your Blue Book for helpful information.

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

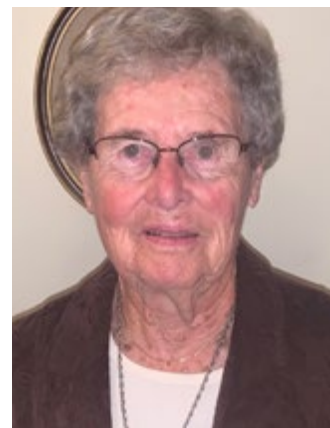
Literature Group

The Literature Group met in September at the Library Meeting Room. Those who were present signed up for Morning or Afternoon discussion groups and we narrowed down the many suggestions to choose the monthly discussion books for 2024-2025. For October the book chosen is "West With the Night" by Beryl Markham.

The AM and PM groups will be meeting on the second Wednesday of the month either at a volunteer member's home or the Marine Room at the Library. The October 9th Morning group will meet at the Library Marine Room at 10 am. The Afternoon group will meet at the home of Robin Lepore, 6 Seabreeze Lane at 1:00 pm. We hope as many members as possible can attend and look forward to good discussions.

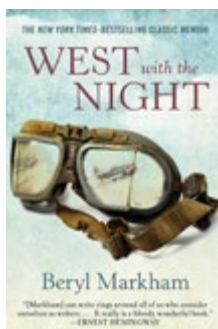
Questions? Contact Peg Olney, pegolney@verizon.net or 508-758-2531

~ Peg Olney



Peg Olney

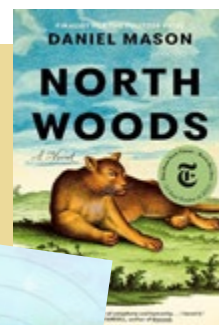
Literature Group Chair,
Ladies Choice Publisher
1998 - 2018 & Current Editor



West With the Night is the 1942 memoir by Beryl Markham, chronicling her experiences growing up in Kenya in the early 1900s, leading to a career as a bush pilot there. The author describes growing up in an Africa that no longer exists, training and breeding race horses, flying mail to Sudan, and being the first woman to fly the Atlantic from east to west. When Markham decided to take on the Atlantic crossing, no pilot had yet flown it non-stop. She was celebrated as an aviation pioneer. Markham chronicled her many adventures in this memoir. After living for many years in the United States, Markham moved back to Kenya in 1952, becoming for a time the most successful horse trainer in the country.

2024-25 Literature Group Book List

- | | |
|----------|--|
| November | "West With Giraffes" by Lynda Rutledge |
| December | "North Woods" by Daniel Mason |
| January | "The History of Sound" by Ben Shattuck |
| February | "James" by Percival Everett |
| March | "The Winthrop Woman" by Anya Seton |
| April | "Trade Wind" by M.M. Kaye |



OCTOBER LUNCHEON MEETING

OCTOBER 17TH • 11 AM • REYNARD HALL, MATTAPOISETT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Bridge Group

The MWC Bridge Group started the new season on September 24th at the home of Ann Butler. It was nice to see everyone after the summer break. Our new schedule is to play on the 4th Tuesday of the month as we rely on our subs to keep the games going.



If you've played in the past and would like the sociability of a monthly game, all levels of players are most welcome. Please contact Elaine Grant at grant5687@comcast.net

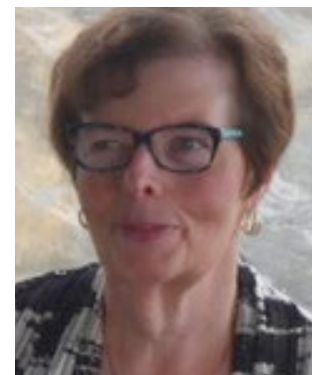
~ Elaine Grant

Knitting & Hand Crafts

The Knitting & Hand Crafts Group had their first meeting in September at the home of Marie Rottler. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 24th, from 2-4pm. The location will be announced to the group at a later date via email.

If you are not on the list and would like to join us, please contact 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 - New Simpler Lessons now available

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

Our Mah Jongg lessons provided in partnership with the Council on Aging have helped achieve our goal of more players attending the weekly sessions. However, we have received feedback that some people found our Mah Jongg lessons a bit overwhelming.



We have two new teachers, Susan Schenker and Tina Dolan, who have observed many newbies trying to learn, and have developed much simpler lessons. When starting out, there will be no walls to build, no dealer, no passing decisions to make and a card that contains only the easier hands to win with. The more complicated components will be added as you play more hands... easing into the whole game.

So, if you've tried Mah Jongg before, but are looking for a simpler way to learn, or...you've never tried Mah Jongg, but would like to learn, just reach out to Mary Dermody to enroll in New Simpler Lessons (contact info below).

We will be scheduling these simpler lessons, as soon as we have at least three people who are interested. Note that we will be limiting the class size to six. Of course, anyone who has experience playing the game should plan to come to one of the regular weekly sessions at the Council on Aging (COA). We play non-competitively and there are never any partners to disappoint.

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

ELEPHANTS, A VINEYARD, AND A BIKE PATH.

What do these things have in common?

Answer: the MWC Walking Group

The MWC walking group is off and running. (Well actually, we are just casually walking, talking, and having fun.)

Recent walks were to Newport to see the Great Elephant migration along the Cliff Walk. About 100 of these “elephants” (i.e. art exhibit) are traveling around the world and made a stop in R.I. this summer. Afterwards, lunch was enjoyed by all at Newport Vineyards Winery.

The next week, several members walked along the Cape Cod Canal followed by lunch at Fisherman’s View Restaurant. Notice a theme? Walk and lunch.

On Friday, Sept 20 we were rained out so we walked along the Mattapoissett bike path on Monday instead. We enjoyed each other’s company while admiring the view and the results of the tree committee’s work along the route.

~ Sue Mitchell



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Garden Group

Wednesday, October 2 10:00 am

Mattaposett Library

The MWC Garden Group will meet on October 2nd at 10 AM in the Mattapoisett Free Public Library meeting room.

Nancy Masson will present a program featuring water gardens. She is a former anesthetist and medical researcher who became enthralled with water lilies over 40 years ago. Since then, she has designed and built dozens of water gardens and features, lectured on the horticultural circuit, and traveled to the Amazon to study the DNA of the giant water platter, *Victoria amazonica*, which has giant pads over 7ft in diameter. She has spent the last several decades trying to uncover *Victoria's* secrets. The October program will feature this fascinating plant, which excites people of all ages, as viewed from a botanical, sociological, historical, and horticultural perspective.

Other business:

Members who haven't paid their dues for the current year can have them collected by Beth Inglis.

The sign-up sheets for the December Greens Sale activities will also be available.

~ Cindy Turse



Ikebana flower arranging

First Garden Group meeting of the year with member Ellen Flynn's demonstration of Ikebana flower arranging! Inspiring!



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Social Cocktail Group

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, December 8 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

The SOCIAL COCKTAIL gathering on Friday, September 20, was enjoyed by all who attended. Thank you, Blaise Simpson, for hosting this event. It will be exciting to see these informal gatherings continue.

On SUNDAY, 12/8, from 4-6PM (time change for shorter days) a lovely, festive seasonal celebration will be held. WHERE you ask?!? Further details will be available in the November edition of Ladies Choice. A sign-up sheet will also be available at all MWC November activities as well as the General Meeting.

Hope you can attend!

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

~ Linda Clifford



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Great Decisions

Mattapoissett Woman's Club 2025 Foreign Policy Association Great Decisions Program is on schedule to begin the 3rd Wednesday in January 2025.

The Woman's club is very excited about offering our community an educational opportunity to participate in 2025, the 25th year of the third millennium. With these rich and international world affairs topics we will have plenty to talk about!

During this election year from now and until the first week of January 2025 our world is watching the United States and in many ways climate change, global development, both food and job security, and education are on the top of the list for world leaders.

Each year since the early 1970's the Mattapoissett Woman's Club has offered this stimulating discussion group for eight consecutive Wednesdays two hours each time. Since the Pandemic our format includes a Zoom product option and we continue this offering, as it is convenient for members who are away from home, or are not just feeling well enough to come to the Mattapoissett Library Community Room each week.

Our program is made available to males, females and people of all local areas, like Acushnet, Wareham, New Bedford, Fairhaven, Dartmouth, Rochester and members even travel from Onset.

Our group consists of people of all backgrounds, some retired Pilots, Educators, Engineers, Architects, Foreign diplomats, Doctors, Nurses, Navy Officers, Climate Resilience experts and a marvelous cross section of the general public. We are all very enthusiastic about the discussions and many of us learn about countries we originally knew very little about.

Sometimes the subjects are not so positive and there tends to be a heavy weight bearing on our shoulders so we rely on each other for positive feedback and bring some humor into our goals of finding solutions during discussions.

We all believe that an Educated public is critical to the strength of a healthy world and that we show each other respect and dignity while talking in our sessions.

Enjoy the topics (see page 10) and please sign up to join.

I will send all the details in our November Newsletter for how to enroll and send in your information with the fees required.

~ Ellen P. Flynn

elflynn@vassar.edu



Ellen Flynn

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



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Great Decisions 2025 Topics

American Foreign Policy at a Crossroads

This chapter will explore the contours of the U.S. foreign policy debate as it plays out in a world of multiple and escalating crises and domestic polarization.

Author: G. John Ikenberry

U.S. Changing Leadership of the World Economy

What are America's options and opportunities as a leader of the world economy? How will America's "foreign policy for the middle class" and strategic competition with China impact its leadership role? How can the postwar rules and institutions of the world economy be made safe for economic nationalism and great power competition?

Author: Daniel Drezner

U.S.-China Relations

Washington's relations with Beijing. China is the U. S.' preeminent geopolitical challenger and, a threat. What are America's strategic options in the face of Chinese power and ambition?

Author: Thomas J. Christensen

International Cooperation on Climate Change

The 2015 Paris Agreement established a UN-sponsored framework for negotiations on climate change and global warming. What is the U.S. role in fostering cooperation on climate change? In a divided country, what are the possible futures for American policy leadership?

Author: Josh Busby

The Future of NATO and European Security

The Uncertainty of European security. Putin's Russia has launched a war with Ukraine on its doorstep, and America's uncertain role as leader of NATO and security provider has been called into question. What are America's stakes in NATO and Europe's strategic dilemmas?

Author: Kori Schake

AI and American National Security

The AI revolution is the leading edge of a larger high-tech revolution which promises to transform the world. How will the AI revolution impact American national security? What are its policy options to secure the benefits of AI and guard against its dangers?

Author: Julie George

India: Between China, the West, and the Global South

India is an emerging major power in world affairs, occupying a pivotal position between China, the United States, and the Global South. What are India's choices and opportunities for regional and global leadership? What opportunities exist for Washington to work with India?

Author: Leslie Vinjamuri

After Gaza: American Policy in the Middle East

The war in Gaza has brought the region to a crossroads. What are the possible outcomes of the war, and how might the United States use its influence to shape a long-term settlement that leaves both Israel and the Palestinians in a better position? How might Arab states in the wider region be brought into a settlement? What are America's interests in the Middle East and how can it advance them?

Author: Daniel Kurtzer



GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Ladies Who Lunch

On Wednesday, September 25, seven of us traveled to the Lobster Trap in Bourne and enjoyed a superb lunch. It is a bit of a drive from Mattapoisett but not hard to find: a right off the Bourne rotary and then a few miles to the restaurant (recommended by Elaine Botelho). Upon entering there is an attractive seafood market and a rustic interior designed with the ambience of a fishing shack. There were tables full of happy looking diners and a busy bar, outdone only by our server who took good care of us throughout our entire meal.



Even though the restaurant name features lobster, only one ordered a lobster roll. It had a generous serving of lobster served with melted butter as requested. On the recommendation of Sue Mitchell, she and one other ordered butterfish, an exotic, light fish no one else had heard of. Other choices were swordfish piccata, a swordfish sandwich, fish and chips and a scallop roll. Everyone to a person was more than satisfied with the freshness of the seafood, its preparation, presentation and the price.

The Lobster Trap has only one spectacular dessert on its menu which received the unanimous approval of the group. It is a 6-inch-high brownie sundae which includes a rich, oversized chocolate brownie laden with mounds of vanilla ice cream topped by a “really delicious” chocolate sauce and a tower of whipped cream. Even divided onto the requested six extra plates with spoons, everyone was satisfied!

The conversation was non-stop, and the laughter so good to hear. We wished more of you had been with us to share a delightful afternoon. Maybe you'll be able to join us on Wednesday, October 23 when we visit Bocca Pasta Grill & Bar in Fairhaven. Check out their lunch menu from this link www.boccafairhaven.com and email or call Kate at (508) 758-3229 to save a seat! It's going to be a popular choice for a dining out adventure so call early!

~ Kate Brown

Ned's Point Picnic

“It was a dark and stormy night.” No, WAIT, that ain't right. It was a beautiful, warm, sunny, breezy day at Ned's Point Light when the 'Ladies Who Lunch' met on August 10th for a picnic lunch.

If memory serves and with help from great photos Linda, Geneva, Sandy, Joanela and her cousin Ellen, a new member!, Peg, Mary, Lois, Christine, Roxanne, Kate and Cindy met under the trees for a delicious lunch. As always, extra special treats were in abundance—homemade cookies, fruit, cheese & crackers, chips & dips—contributed by most attendees. I'm salivating as I recall the bounty. It was a lovely afternoon, thoroughly enjoyed by all. *More pictures on page 12*

-Cindy Johnson



Ned's Point Picnic *Continued from page 11*



SEPTEMBER POTLUCK LUNCHEON

I was so glad to see so many members at the Mattapoissett Congregational Church for the welcome back luncheon! Wasn't it good to see each other again and catch up on everything that had happened over the summer? And the array of food! All of those beautiful salads, sandwiches, deviled eggs, and dessert goodies made for difficult but delicious choices.

My sincere thanks to Sherry Hoines and her wonderful cadre of hostesses who did all of the arrangements for the luncheon, from the beautiful flowers to the lovely decor, to the tables laden with those delicious looking morsels. And if the noise level meant anything, I'd say that we enjoyed talking over lunch and dessert as a welcomed opportunity to renew our friendships.

We were happy to have Diane Brown-Couture installed as our new Corresponding Secretary and to welcome the new members who attended their very first luncheon meeting. It's nice to see our Club growing.

My most sincere thanks to Kristen McCormack for her very thoughtful presentation of the results of the membership survey we took last spring. Those results should reassure all of us that the Club is in good shape, but it should also serve as a reminder that we need to look ahead to the future, too, and to our own sustainability due the societal changes that are happening all around us. Nothing earth shattering there, but the results should be considered a nudge that we need to consider where we want to be five or 10 years from now in terms of continuing to be the fine Club that we are. Kristen's talk was an excellent kick-off to a year when looking to the future, in both the short- and long-term, is where the Club's leadership hopes we can focus some of our energy this year. We have a splendid past; now let's head for the same in the future!

~ Kate Brown

Photos from Potluck Luncheon October 2023.



MWC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

Our Club reaches out to many different entities in our community for volunteering.

Please contact Mary O'Keefe if you'd like to know more about these opportunities.

The needs are great, and help is always appreciated.

Officers

President
Kate Brown

Vice President
Cindy Johnson

Recording Secretary
Deborah Ward

Corresponding Secretary
Diane Brown-Couture

Treasurer
Beth Inglis

Assistant Treasurer
Lois K. Ennis

Board of Directors
2025 Linda Clifford
2026 Roxanne Bungert
2027 Sandra Hering

Standing Committees

Members of Executive Board

Publicity

Bethany Cuoto

Facebook Cindy Turse
Ladies' Choice Elaine Grant
Proofreader Peg Olney
Website Kate Brown

Ladies' Choice Publisher

Debra Nettles

Photographer

Ann Tisdale

Hospitality

Erin Burlinson

Program

Eileen Marum
Gail Roberts

Garden Group

Cindy Turse

Historian

Gail Roberts

Membership Committee

Sharon Doyon
Dottie Schwarz

Special Committees

Great Decisions

Ellen Flynn

Greetings & Remembrances

Linda Clifford

Scholarship Committee

2024-2025 Jan Hubley
2025-2026 Alice Openshaw
2026-2027

Diane Brown-Couture

Audit Committee

2024 Marianne Hickey
2025 Sherry Hoines
2026 Sue Mitchell

Technology, Data & History Storage

Sandy Hering
Beth Inglis
Gail Roberts
Blaise Simpson

Ad Hoc Community

Engagement

Katherine Gaudet
Sandy Hering
Cindy Johnson
Kristen McCormack
Kate Brown

Social Activities

Bridge

Elaine Grant

Garden Group

Cindy Turse

Knitting & Hand Crafts

Marie Rottler

Ladies Who Lunch

Kate Brown

Literature Group

Peg Olney

Mah Jongg

Mary Dermody

Social Cocktail Group

Open

Walking Group

Sue Mitchell

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



JOIN NOW!

