

# To the Volunteers of The Edgartown Council on Aging We Thank You...

This publication is dedicated to the volunteers of the Edgartown Council on Aging. You are our most valuable resource, and we couldn't have gotten through 2020, or any other year, without all of you. We take this opportunity to honor all of the volunteers who have been a part of the Anchors team between 2019 and 2021.

With all of our thanks and gratitude,  
The Anchors' Crew





# AARP Tax Prep

Each year The AARP Tax Aide program recruits and trains thousands of volunteers across the country to assist qualifying older adults with filing their taxes. Here on Martha's Vineyard, we have been extremely lucky to have John and Dorothy Dropick leading that effort each year. On behalf of the hundreds of people they assist every year, we thank you. Thank you to the following AARP volunteers who prepared taxes over the past two years:

Ray Buckley  
Janice Casey

Marshall Cook  
Dorothy Dropick

John Dropick  
Mary Miller

Sam Stancati



## Activities & Reception

Back when the Anchors was open and in full swing, these wonderful people were always willing to jump in and help staff with whatever needed to be done. Thank you for being there for everyone at the Anchors.

Jay Airis  
Jean Bishop  
Jean Brennan

Ethel Chapman  
Deirdre Decarion  
Channing Hagerty

Dianne Holt  
Jane Keenan  
Margi Lanzoni

Joseph LaFlame  
Ann Tyra  
Pat Tyra

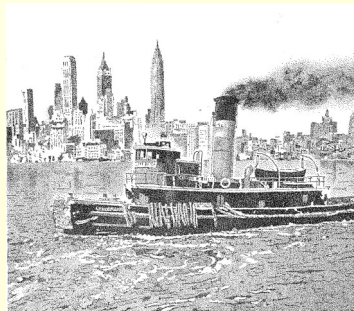




# Artist of the Month

Each month, the Anchors displays the work of a local older adult artist. Prior to covid-19, the work was displayed in the Great Room for all to admire. When we went digital, we were able to continue sharing the work of our talented community in our monthly newsletter. Thank you to all of you who have loaned us your beautiful pieces. Being able to display your work on a rotating basis truly enhances the spaces in where we enjoy our meals and programs. You inspire us with your creativity and for that we are grateful.

Needlework for Charity	Ed Schulman	Cindy Bonnell	Ethel Chapman
Mindful Knitting	Jim McKay	Jack Ryan	Dick Biros
Roy Meekins	Teresa Yuan	Olga Church	Shirlee Miller
Norma Bridwell	Trudy Williams	Marvene O'Rourke	
Kerry Hallam	Catherine Griffin	Susan Sellers	





# The Board of the Edgartown Council on Aging

To say that our Board members have risen to the challenges presented to them in the past two years would be an understatement. First they navigated the retirements of two beloved staff members followed by a longer than anticipated search for an administrator. Then the board unexpectedly lost one of its treasured members, Mary Jane Carpenter. All of this was happening in a pandemic, where regulations and best practices became a year-long moving target. Board chairman Rosemary Cunningham proved an invaluable asset to the ECOA during this time. Quietly, in the background, she remained a steady source of support and guidance to the Anchors staff. She went above and beyond the call of duty, often putting in long hours to ensure that we got through the pandemic relatively unscathed, and with the right team and leadership to do so. Co-chair Marvene O'Rourke also made herself available to staff and was a rock solid source of sober advice and support. The

board of the Edgartown Council on Aging is made up of a truly impressive group of retired and working professionals whose values, experience, and shared vision for the well being of older adults are a boon to the Edgartown community. We cannot thank you enough for your commitment to those you serve. We would like to formally recognize the contributions of the following individuals who have served on the board of the ECOA during the past two years.

Rosemary Cunningham, Nancy Ignacio

Chairman

Heidi Boyd

Mary Jane Carpenter

John Dropick

Jay Sigler

Stephen Miller

Marvene O' Rourke,

Co-chair

Recording



Top left: ECOA Administrator, Lyndsay Famariss. Top middle: ECOA Director of Senior Services, Meris Keating. Current ECOA Board members: Top right, Heidi Boyd. Starting at the left, middle row: Stephen Miller, Rosemary Cunningham, Chairman, and Jay Sigler. Bottom left: Marvene O' Rourke, Co-Chair, Nancy Ignacio, and John Dropick.



## Bridge

The Anchors Bridge group meets twice weekly throughout the year. From the beginning of 2019 until closing in March of 2020, the bridge group welcomed nearly twenty regular players to their tables. Carol Fligor has served as the Bridge group leader for many years. Carol does a fabulous job of organizing the players. She also makes everyone feel welcome and at home. Carol keeps up with players, past and present through frequent email updates. Thank you for all you do Carol. We very much look forward to seeing you and the rest of the players soon.



## Conversations Group

The Anchors Conversation Group has had some different volunteer leaders over the years. But for four years leading up to 2020, Jay Sigler was the ‘fearless facilitator’ of the group. We thank him for his commitment and contributions. Jay kept the group fresh with new topics, and created a respectful space for good conversation and learning.

## Errands & Shopping

Transportation is often at the top of the list for older adults in terms of needs. Living alone, without the means to get out and about, can create very real concerns. When the pandemic hit, even more older adults were affected as public transportation and ride shares limited services or stopped altogether. Older adults were, and continue to be, the highest risk population for complications or death from Covid-19. People were understandably afraid to increase their exposure, but still had to eat, check mail and get their medications. The following volunteers have been incredibly generous with their time and willingness to take risks in order to help others. Many of them have stayed on call for the entire pandemic. If someone needed something, they were there. We truly cannot thank them enough for their help.

Marcia Beeman

Isabella Garbutt

Nancy Ignacio

Carolyn O’Daly

Leah Fraumeni

Patricia Garbutt

Juliet Mulinaire

Chelsea Peruccio

Kevin Ryan



## Fish Distribution

Each year, people across the island get to enjoy freshly caught bonito, blue fish, and striped bass, free! This incredible program is possible because of the annual Martha's Vineyard Bluefish and Bass Fishing Derby, which spans five weeks between September and October. This beloved island tradition is a huge collaboration between fishermen and women, the board of the Derby, and the countless volunteers who work the weigh-in station and take turns fileting fish. The ECOA has its own loyal band of volunteers who take up in the Anchors kitchen to bag and label, and distribute the fresh catch to their neighbors. Unfortunately due to Covid, the volunteers could not participate as usual in 2020. We thank you for all you have done over the years.

Marcia Beeman

Robert Edwards

Reno Trubiano

Pat Tyra

Diane Edwards

Donald Mc Gregor

Ann Tyra



## Friends of the Edgartown Council on Aging

We are grateful to the Friends of the Edgartown Council on Aging. Their dedication and support of Anchors staff, programs, and services is crucial. The Friends of the ECOA make it possible for us to provide the older adults in our community with life enhancing programs, events, and other relevant services at reduced or no cost. So much of what we do at the Anchors is made possible through the funds which they manage and oversee. We also thank all past and present donors for their generous contributions. A special token of gratitude goes to treasurer Janice Belisle. Janice goes above and beyond the call of duty. She is always available to the ECOA staff, cheering them on and offering valuable feedback.

Madeline Fisher, Co-chair Patti Dean, Secretary

Barbara Flanders

Marge Willoughby

Barbara Philips, Co-chair Janice Donaroma

Carol Koser

Pat Johnson

Janice Belisle, Treasurer Cheryl Best

Linda Smith



Above: ECOA Members enjoying some intergenerational fun





Friends of the Edgartown Council on Aging in a Zoom meeting

## Friendly Phone Calls & Visits

With the Anchors building closed to the public for over a year during the pandemic, isolation and loneliness were a bigger concern than ever before. Thanks to the following volunteers for checking in on people to help them stay connected and feeling a little bit safer.

Ellen Reynolds      Kenneth Goldberg      Juliet Mulinaire  
 Jean Brennan      Ethel Chapman      Leah Fraumeni

## Gardening & The Happiness Project

In August of 2020, Cindy Trish of HAMV and the wonderful people at IGI put together a program called 'The Happiness Project'. For four weeks in August, Cindy brought ten gardening kits per week to the Anchors. The kits were everything a person would need to start a container garden of various veggies and herbs. Each week, mother daughter team Pat and Isabella Garbutt delivered the kits to different households across Edgartown. The program was a success and we thank all who were involved in making it happen.

Speaking of green thumbs, you may have noticed that the back planter of the Anchors looked especially festive the past two winters. This is all thanks to the generosity of a very talented gardener named Teresa Yuan, who contributes her time and greenery each year to make the back entrance look inviting. Thank you for sharing your talents with us Teresa!





# Gleaning

Each year, Island Grown Initiative partners with a band of loyal volunteers and several local farms. These farms invite the Gleaners in to pick crops in order to distribute them to various community centers and food pantries across the island. The Edgartown Council on Aging has been lucky to be a distribution center for this exceptional program for many years. Some farms bring flowers and produce directly to us. We can't express how incredibly lucky we feel to be able to pass along the fruits of your labor to our community. Thank you farmers and gleaners for all of your hard work and generosity. Also thank you to the Anchors volunteers who helped bag up the enormous amounts of veggies we receive throughout the season.

Slough Cove Farm

Scottish Bakehouse

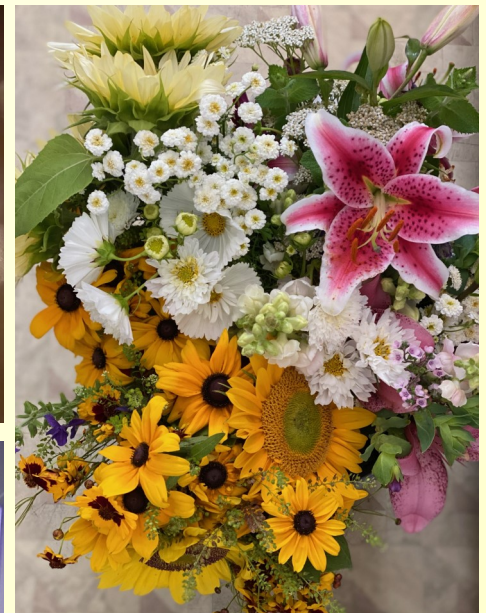
Bob Daniels

Island Grown Initiative

Morning Glory Farm

Slip Away Farm

Margaret Knight





## Knitting and Needlepoint

The Anchors is proud to offer three weekly groups which welcome various knitters, needle pointers, and other 'needle artists'. For several years, Shirley Dewing has been the kind and easy-going contact for all things knitting and needlepoint. We thank Shirley for her dedication to these very important offerings. She organizes the donations that 'Needlework for Charity' gives to their chosen organization(s) each year, and is our go-to for all things knitting at The Anchors. We also thank the many needle artists for donating their beautiful creations.



## Mah Jong



From the beginning of 2019 until early March of 2020, The Anchors Mah Jong group welcomed 33 different people into its games. Some attended faithfully every week. Others were players on holiday who wanted to enjoy a game in Edgartown. No matter who they were, or what their age, Mah Jong leader Shirlee Miller would enthusiastically make a seat at the table for them. Shirlee leads with an inclusive attitude and a passion for teaching first timers. Thank you for your fun loving welcoming nature Shirlee, and for your dedication to running the Anchors' Mah Jong group. We can't wait to have you all back.

## Mask Making

When the pandemic began, we quickly learned that mask wearing would become a new way of life, if we wanted to help stop the spread and protect one another. Masks sold out in stores and online at an alarming rate. The elastic band needed to secure masks, even fabric, was on back order for months. The wonderful people named below got to their sewing machines and churned out an impressive amount of beautiful masks to keep us all safe. Because of their efforts, we were able to deliver and distribute hundreds of masks to those we serve.

Patricia Correia

Katie Halsey

Carol Smith

Donna Blackburn

Cathy Minciewicz

The Corona Stompers



# Meals Programs

It became clear very early on in the pandemic, that people were going to need a reliable, safe, and nutritious food source. People were rightly nervous to go to the grocery store as older adults were in the highest risk category and everyone urged them to stay home. Those who ventured to the stores often found bare shelves.

We knew we had to find a way to provide meals for as many people as our resources would allow. Fortunately for us we have rock star-status chef Diane Wall, and dynamo outreach worker Katie Vieira. With support from the rest of the staff they created a plan and put it in motion. None of this could have been achieved without our incredible team of volunteers. Since March of 2020, we estimate that our volunteers have delivered over 10,000 individual meals and soups to nearly 140 people.

Apart from our meals delivery program, our volunteers bagged hundreds of pounds of fresh produce through IGI's gleaning program, and delivered it to approximately 50 people each week. The following individuals have shown us through their commitment, caring, and hard work, that they truly are invaluable members of the island community. We are proud, and grateful to have you on the Anchors' team.

Marcia Beeman	Barbara Jamgochian	Chelsea Peruccio	Margaret Steele
Anthony Carestia	Ed Merck	Joanne Ryan	Jean Tattlebaum
Danielle Cleary	Juliet Mulinare	Kevin Ryan	Ann Tyra
Leah Fraumeni	Carolyn O' Daly	Carol Smith	Martha Weiss
Albert Jamgochian	Marvene O' Rourke		

We would like to recognize and thank both Slough Cove Farm and Carolyn King of the Edgartown Yacht Club for adding some truly delicious meals to our delivery program in the early months of the pandemic. They were appreciated by all who received them.







## Music

For many years, those attending lunches and special events at the Anchors have been treated to the musical stylings of our own Adele Dreyer on piano. When the pandemic hit and we had to close our doors, Adele swiftly jumped into the world of Zoom programming. Her piano lounge hours have become something of a fan favorite. Adele, thank you for all you do for our community. Thank you for sharing the gift of music with us all.



## Poetry

Every week throughout the year, the Anchors hosts a Poetry group. Jill Jupen has been running this group, along with the monthly Book group, for several years now. She, along with a loyal group of fellow poets, has created a very special and treasured part of the ECOA's programming. When Covid forced us to close, Jill was quick to get the group online and they have continued to meet weekly on Zoom ever since. We are grateful to Jill for her dedication as an Anchors' volunteer, and thank her for sharing her talents and time with us.

## Prep, Cook, and Kitchen

No matter where you go, people always tend to gather in the kitchen. The same is true at the Anchors, and for good reason. Chef Diane Wall has been whipping up nutritious, crave-worthy meals for close to 13 years. Prior to the pandemic, Diane had a loyal kitchen crew of men and women who helped her with prep, dishes, desserts, and meals. Kitchen volunteers don't just help with the work they do. Our kitchen volunteers adds to the comradery and fun that is often created alongside the tasty food. Prior to the pandemic, Annette Smith was a frequent fixture next to the chef. Anne McCarron was the most cheerful dishwasher in town. A special thank you to Carol Smith, who volunteered over 50 hours in 2021

Jean Bishop

Channing Hagerty

Barry Nevin

Norma Holmes

Mary Gentle

Anne McCarron

Carol Smith

Pat Tyra

Barbara Laramie

Annette Smith

Ethel Chapman





# Program Leaders

The Edgartown Council on Aging is extremely fortunate to have a community of volunteers made up of working and retired professionals who are happy to share their knowledge and talents with us. Over the course of a year, the Anchors welcomes these individuals who help run the majority of its programs. They give talks and presentations, hang their artwork on display, and offer ongoing classes and workshops on a wide range of topics. We are grateful to all of our program leaders, who help us stay current and relevant, and add diversity and interest to our offerings.

Janice Belisle

Dick Jennings

Kathy Lavieri

William Bishop

Allison Cameron Parry

Bob Laskowski

Shirlee Miller

Stephen Miller

Thomas Dresser

Josh Levy

Carolyn O'Daly

Mary Gentle

Louise Clough

Ann Tyra

And many more...

Susan Grunthal

Jill Jupen

Dave McCarron







# SHINE

Bill Glazier has been a dedicated SHINE counselor for the Anchors for many years. He regularly attends intensive SHINE trainings in order to stay on top of the ever-changing health insurance landscape. In early 2020 when the Anchors building closed, Bill quickly made himself available by telephone to anyone who needed insurance counseling. Bill, we thank you for your professionalism, caring, and generosity.

## Special Event Deliveries

When the pandemic forced the Anchors to close its doors, staff were faced with some incredible challenges. How could we reach people safely, help keep their spirits up, and provide volunteer opportunities to the many people who were looking for a way to help? The short answer: chocolate. Staff at the Anchors worked hard to identify those Edgartown older adults who had participated in our in-house programming, and who were spending their quarantine here on the island. It was a pleasure for staff and volunteers to have a reason to visit at a distance. A huge thank you to all of the volunteers who helped us deliver Halloween candy, hot chocolate, valentines cookies and more to hundreds of Edgartown residents this past year. A very special thanks to Carolyn O'Daly, Janice Belisle, and Mary Gentle, for baking nearly a thousand cookies for both deliveries and staff morale boosters!

Nancy Langman

Juliet Mulinare

Kevin Ryan

Martha Weiss

Danielle Cleary

Carolyn O'Daly

Joanne Ryan

Elyce Bonnell

Adele Dreyer

Marvene O'Rourke

Margaret Steele

Adam Darack

Peter Dreyer

Chelsea Peruccio

Jean Tattlebaum





The numbers say it all. The hours our volunteers donate each week, and month, year after year, translate to real dollars. Between January 1st, 2019 and March 31st, 2021, our volunteers gave the Edgartown Council on Aging an estimated 3,957 hours of their time. We simply wouldn't be able to offer the breadth of services and programs we can without your generosity of self and time. Thank you, and please know you make a difference in the lives of so many. It is a pleasure to work with you!


Edgartown Council on Aging  
 10 Daggett Street  
 Edgartown, MA. 02539  
 508--627-4368

0025

DATE Jan 2019-March 2021

PAY TO THE  
 ORDER OF The Edgartown Board of Selectmen

\$ 70,389.75

Seventy thousand three hundred eighty nine dollars & 75/100 DOLLARS 

MEMO Volunteer work

Lyndsay Famariss, Administrator

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

⑆ 789123456 ⑆ 123789456123 ⑈ 0025









# Special Thanks to the following organizations and businesses for their support, collaboration, and generosity:

- Chicken Alley Thrift Store
- Cronig's
- Edgartown Fire Department
- Edgartown Police Department
- Edgartown Public Library
- Edgartown School
- Edgartown Shellfish Department
- Edgartown Yacht Club
- Friends of the Edgartown Council on Aging
- Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard
- Island Food Pantry
- Island Grown Initiative
- Island Health Care
- Island Wide Youth Collaborative
- Martha's Vineyard Center for Living
- Martha's Vineyard Community Services
- Martha's Vineyard Hospital
- Martha's Vineyard Museum
- Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
- Martha's Vineyard Savings Bank
- Morning Glory Farm
- Murdick's Fudge
- MV Bluefish and Bass Fishing Derby
- MV Martha Rose
- MV Times
- Oak Bluffs Council on Aging
- Old Town Gardens
- Scottish Bakehouse
- Slip Away Farm
- Slough Cove Farm
- Stop & Shop Community Bag Program
- Tisbury Council on Aging
- Up Island Council on Aging
- Vineyard Nutrition



Friends of the Edgartown Council on Aging

