



President's Message

Carol Figueroa



Happy Summer!!!

It's already June and the end of this club year is upon us. This past year has been challenging in many ways for us. But some of our interest groups were able to remain active this year; Book Club, Fitness Friends and Secret Sister. They were able to meet via Zoom and host socially distance walks at the Merrimack Outlets. We hope to continue hosting a few events over the summer months – maybe go for a hike or walk on our local trails. I hope you will join us for any of the outdoor activities that are planned so that we can stay connected.

In the May we usually hold our Spring yard sale. This year the board decided to not to hold this event since we had a successful Fall yard sale and were also a recipient of the River Casino & Sports Bar's charitable gaming donations. We may move to holding one yard sale a year in the Fall as a kick off to the new club year, but that will be decided on a year-to-year basis. We also usually like to hold a year end event for the club in June. But at this time, we thought it would be best to hold a welcome back event in September when hopefully we can meet without any issues.

I hope you have a fantastic summer. Stay safe and well.

See you in September!

In Friendship,
Carol



June calendar

Please note that all activities will follow CDC, state, and local safety recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
June 6	9:00 AM	Walk at the outlets
June 7	7:00 PM	Book Club *NOTE DATE CHANGE*
June 14	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
June 13	9:00 AM	Walk at the outlets
June 20	9:00 AM	Walk at the outlets
June 27	9:00 AM	Walk at the outlets
Please see the Evite for additional information		



Vice President

Catherine Pepler



Hello Everyone!

I am loving this time of year. Flowers are blooming, temperatures are warming up and now able to plan for gatherings with family. I traveled to the Finger Lakes to see my daughter and family after our 489-day hiatus due to the pandemic. My grandsons were delighted to find Grammie at the bus stop waiting their arrival home. My 10 yo grandson told me it was the best birthday gift ever to have Grammie visiting. It was a wonderful 11-day visit. Oh yes, I gathered up so many hugs and kisses. Joy, pure joy! I know the challenge of this past year as just as you do too. Last weekend I enjoyed the first cookout with my sons and families in over 18 months. Another happy time. I am sure you have similar reunions. Love to hear all about it.

I am happy to say we are beginning to with more events for you to join in. Right now, we are all outside allowing for social distancing and mask wearing as needed. Although the CDC has released new guidelines on mask wearing for those fully vaccinated, I personally am still more comfortable wearing a mask when in gatherings I do not know if the others are vaccinated or nor. Please understand I recognized it is a personal choice. I share this because I have heard from some that are concern with gatherings.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in the upcoming months at events. Hope you will consider joining in. If you have an idea about gathering together for a hike, walk, lunch, dinner, bowling or whatever, please reach out to me.

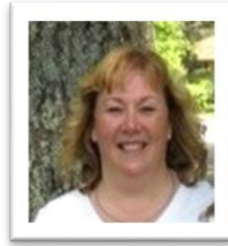
Be Safe, Be Strong, Be Mighty!

Catherine M Pepler, MFF VP



Treasurer

Bev Coelho



Just a reminder that if you use Amazon when shopping, please use Amazon Smile and select Merrimack Friends and Families as your Charity to donate your 0.5% of eligible purchases.

Enjoy your Summer and see you in the Fall!

Thanks,
Bev

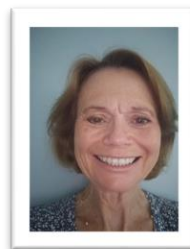
Secretary

Dorian Walters

Just a reminder to send me any Friends in Deed needs!

Ways and Means

Julie Akers & Robin Johnson



We're coming to the official end of another MFF year. Surprisingly, Ways & Means participated in more events than usual. Robin and Julie want to thank all of you who volunteered your time or who baked treats. Our Fall yard sale was a big success because loads of town people dropped off donations and we had a steady stream of shoppers. Parks & Rec kept us busy all year with annual



Halloween, Easter and Winter celebrations as well as several races through Wasserman Park and downtown. All events were held outdoors and we followed CDC guidelines to stay healthy and safe.

Again, thank you so much and we hope to see you around town soon.

Robin Johnson
Julie Akers

Service

Tammy Ditman & Pat Teden



We finished the MFF year with the adopt-a-road cleaning of Lawrence Road. It was nice to get back outside and do something in the community. We collected 27 bags of trash plus assorted larger unbagable items.

We want to offer a sincere thank you to all the members who helped with service projects throughout the year. From filling backpacks and creating Easter baskets for Merrimack children, stuffing Christmas stockings for the troops, cleaning the dump road and volunteering your time to help our community in many ways, we appreciate all you've done.

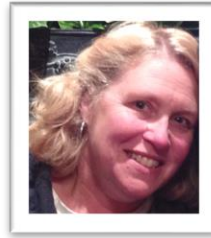
Pat and I are excited for next year, when the covid restrictions will hopefully be lessened and we can all be more active in the community.

Be on the lookout for the annual backpacks for kids evite towards the end of summer.

Enjoy the summer, see you in the fall.
Tammy and Pat

Membership

Wilma Cunningham & Beth Voorhees

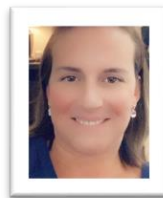


We are inviting anyone interested to join us as we walk Sunday mornings through June. If you have a friend or neighbor interested in our group, we'd love to have them join us. Looking forward to warmer weather to hold informational ice cream/ coffees/wine nights at outdoor venues.

Wilma & Beth

Publicity

Beth Milliken



PLEASE SEND ME PICTURES!! Social media is so important in order for people to learn more about us. If you do anything with members, please make sure that you send me a picture or two, and let me know a little about what you did. The more we share, the more we are seen! It's spring and hopefully you can all get out more and enjoy! Some examples of our social media pictures are here. Pictures really help!

Even if you aren't with other members, but go somewhere nice or special, take an awesome hike, anything else that you think people might enjoy, take pictures and send them my way. It would be great for people to get an even better glimpse into our membership.

Please send to publicity@merrimackfriendsfamilies.org.

Enjoy the warming weather!

Beth



Happy Birthday!!



Kara P	6/04
Katie B	6/08
Beth M	6/12
Jill M	6/12
Nancy M	6/17
Beth V	6/20
Tammy D	6/30
Robin J	7/05
Julie A	7/06
Bev C	7/08
Rose S	7/21
Wilma C	7/26
Kathryn S	7/27
Eileen H	8/12
Sharon B	8/22
Carol F	8/29

Interest Group Happenings

Secret Sisters

Hello, Secret Sisters! What a wonderful year we had, despite the circumstances. I'd like to thank all of you that participated. It was so much fun, and so rewarding. I hope you all plan to do it again next year! And thank you, participants, for not skipping a beat throughout it all.



This month, you have the opportunity to send a small 'thank you' gift to the wonderful woman who has been surprising you each month since October, now that you know who she is!

Again, thank you for your participation. I hope you all have a healthy and relaxing summer, and we'll see you in September!

Regards,
Jill Mitchell



Fitness Friends

Join us Sunday mornings for walking at the Outlets before the stores open. Watch for the e-vites.

Lunch Bunch

Stay tuned for upcoming information.





Ladies Night Out

Stay tuned for upcoming information.



Recipe Swap

Let's have a virtual recipe swap for now!! Please send along favorite recipes and they'll be shared in the upcoming newsletters.

Start saving up those recipes to share next year!!



Crafters Unite

Stay tuned for upcoming information.



Book Club

NOTICE MAJOR DATE CHANGE! Due to many conflicts of the book club members the date of this last book club meeting has been moved up 9 days. **We will meet on Monday, June 7 at 7:00 pm.** Please make sure to make the change to your personal calendar so you don't miss this event. The library has 9 copies of the book, Educated by Tara Westover, with more available through the virtual library including one in Spanish! Educated is the memoir of Tara Westover who was just 17 when she first set foot in a classroom. She was born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho. She prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head for the hills bag."

This will be an in-person event. I am planning to also have Zoom available for anyone who would prefer to not meet in person. Please check evite for details of where we are meeting. Location may change due to inclement weather. Location will be updated in evite within 24 hours of event.



To make this a fun event, I am asking everyone to bring a book for a Yankee swap type of event so that we all have something to read during the summer. You may bring extra books if you have them.

I'm looking forward to a great discussion!

Sandy George

Meet The Board

Board of Directors for the 2021/2022 Club Year:

- President: Carol Figueroa (with assistance from the Board)
- Vice President: Catherine Pepler
- Treasurer: Bev Coelho
- Secretary: Leslie Haltbakk
- Ways & Means: Julie Akers and Carol Figueroa
- Service Coordinators: Tammy Ditman and Pat Teden
- Membership: Beth Voorhees and Robin Johnson
- Newsletter Editor: Barb Asketh
- Publicity: Beth Milliken

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