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the  
**Welcome Mat**

## President's Message



*Carol Figueroa*

Happy May!!

Do you think spring will ever come!! I hope it does soon since I'm looking forward to getting outside and maybe doing some hiking!!

In April our Election Officer, Deana Haddad, requested nominations for the 2019-2020 Board of Directors. Those nominations came in and the final results are in. A few members stepped up to share positions for the next board year. Here is your board of directors for the next club year - 2019/2020:

Co-President - Bev Coehlo and Carol Figueroa  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President - Open  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Barb Amaral  
Secretary - Heather Murray  
Co-Treasurer - Wilma Cunningham and Bev Coehlo  
Publicity - Carol Figueroa  
Newsletter Editor - Barb Amaral  
Ways and Means - Beth Milliken and Jill Mitchell  
Membership - Wilma Cunningham and Beth Voorhees  
Service Coordinators - Julie Akers and Tammy Ditman

Our 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President position is open and if you are interested in joining the Board next year please let me know. We would love for you to join us and help plan the monthly social meetings for the club. A big thank you goes out to Deana Haddad for stepping up to be our Election Officer. We could not have gone through this process without her fulfilling this role for the club.

Please note in your calendar the Annual MFF spring yard sale for our charitable fund is coming up on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. This is our last fundraiser for the club year so hopefully you can either help out or donate to support the event!! Please see the Ways & Means newsletter entry and Evite for more information.

I hope to see you at the yard sale or at one of our events!! Have a fabulous Spring!!

Yours in Friendship,  
Carol

## May calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
May-6	9:00am	Road Cleanup
May-6	7:00pm	Board Meeting
May-15	7:00pm	Book club
May-18	7:30am	Yard sale
May-22	11:30am	Lunch at LaBelle Winery
May-23	7:00pm	Secret Sisters Potluck

Please see the Evite for additional information

## Second Vice President

*Barb Amaral*



Thanks so much to Deana Haddad for the fabulous job she did as election officer!!  
 Congrats to the new board! As Carol mentioned, the First VP position is available once again. Please consider stepping up to take this role on the board! It's not too late! No experience is required and plenty of support is available!!

## Treasurer

*Wilma Cunningham*



No updates this month. All is well!



## Secretary

*Jill Mitchell*

Finally, Spring has arrived! If you know of any club member that could use our support with meals, rides, or any other assistance that a friend might provide, please let me know and I'd be happy to ensure those needs are met. Even if that person does not require any assistance, we at least would like to reach out and let them know we are



thinking of them. As they say, "If you see something, say something." Otherwise, we'll never be able to help out our extended family.

Regards,  
Jill Mitchell

[Jill.Mitchell@fmr.com](mailto:Jill.Mitchell@fmr.com)

## Ways and Means

*Beth Milliken and Wendy Thomas*



Our Spring Yard Sale to benefit our charitable account fund is coming up on Saturday May 18th! Please save the date as we will need plenty of help that day and hope to see you. If aren't able to help that day, please consider donating items for us to sell. We are also looking for hangers that we can use at the yard sale. Watch for the Evite to come out the first week of May for other items and times we are looking for help with! If you have items to donate, please feel free to reach out to me if you need your items picked up or you can drop them off the day of the sale at the Townhall parking lot between 7-8 AM.

Hope to see you there!

Beth Milliken and Wendy Thomas



## Service

*Julie Akers and Bev Coelho*

Join us on Saturday, May 5 for our last community service event of the club year. We'll be cleaning up Lawrence Rd (dump road) with our twice a year Adopt-a-Road project. In only two hours we can make a big difference in our town by using the town's trash grabbers, trash bags and reflective vests to make Merrimack more beautiful. It will be May 5th, a.k.a. Cinque de Mayo, so join us for a margarita afterward if you'd like. Sign up on the evite to let us know you're joining us.



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## Membership

*Dawn LeGay & Linda Varela*

Spring has sprung, enjoy!



## Happy Birthday!!



Ann Marie Wellman 05/21  
Dorian Walters 05/29

## Personals

Dear SS ~ Thank you so much for my Boston Red Sox themed gift. The wine glass and soup bowl koozie are getting lots of use, and I can't wait to hang up my Christmas tree decoration later this year. Thanks again! ~ Jill

Dear SS, Spring arrived with your bright yellow daisies and hand towels in both Easter and summer designs. The daisies are on a table on the screened porch, which is where I spend as much time as I can. Thank you for brightening my spot. -Pat

To Pat Teden: Just a friendly reminder from your Secret Sister, the Cozy Tea Cart Groupon expires 5/20. Hopefully you get to enjoy it soon.

Dear SS, Thank you for the beautiful hydrangea! I brought it up to my family's place in the Lakes Region, where it can benefit from the extra space and my parents' green thumbs! It made for a beautiful Easter centerpiece, and I look forward to enjoying it up there all spring! Heather M.

Thank you to Julie's Secret Sister! The wine and beautiful wine stoppers will be put to good use 😊! Always a welcome present! You have been fabulous to me all year and I am looking forward to meeting you and thanking you in person. – Julie

To Tammy's Secret Sister - Thank you for the very pretty earrings. Green is definitely a great color on me. I really like them! Thanks.



To Tammy's Secret Sister #2: Thank you for my April gift. I plan on hanging the star on my front door from May through July and then moving it to my dining room since it matches the decor. It is a great piece. Thank you!

Dear SS: Thank you for the beautiful Easter Lilly. I used to give these to my Mom for Easter, so this was very special. Also, thank you for the gift certificate to Amazon. I'll have to go shopping now! ~Bev

Dear SS, thanks so much for my April gift!! So much fun to actually get stuff in the mail! 😊 Can't wait to meet you soon! Barb

Dear Secret Sister - Thank you for the hiking poles. Now I really must plan some hikes this year!! Looking forward to trying them out soon. Luis is eyeing them for himself to use. Thank you for all your thoughtful gifts this year. I'm looking forward to the reveal so I can find out who you are!! Carol

Dear Secret Sister,

Thank you so much for fulfilling my favorite rainy day activity. Also, so sweet of you to think of Katie again. It makes her feel so special!

Dawn

Thank you so much to Beth M's secret sister for my April gift! I loved the wine cork holder and can't wait to work on filling with the help of good friends!

## Interest Group Happenings

### Secret Sisters

Hello, Secret Sisters! If for any reason you did not receive (or deliver) your April gift, please let me know and I'd be happy to assist. Your SS is counting on your full participation.

This is it – the secrecy is all about to come to an end! Be sure to RSVP to the invitation for our “reveal” potluck party on Thursday, May 23, when it is sent out! Your SS cannot wait to learn who you are! You should still remember to bring your gift in an unmarked brown bag just one more time. In June, you'll then be able to send a small ‘thank you’ gift to the wonderful woman who has been surprising you each month since October.

And now in the next newsletter, you'll be able to openly thank and address your SS in the Personals section! It is not required, but it's certainly a great gesture. Just send a quick note to Wilma or Barb and they'd be happy to publish it.

Again, thank you for your participation. Happy Spring!

Regards,

Jill



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## Trivia

Team One More Round continues to play at the Budweiser Biergarten on Tuesday evenings. The game runs from 6:00-8:00, we have a lot of fun and we often win! The Biergarten has a pub food dinner menu, beers, ciders and sodas. Come join us for a fun night out with friends.

## Lunch Bunch

Join us for lunch at The Bistro at LaBelle Winery on Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:30 am. LaBelle Winery is located in Amherst at 345 Route 101. Hopefully the weather will be nice and we can eat out on the patio. Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.

You can check out the menu at: <http://www.thebistroatlabelle.com/>

Carol

## Fitness Friends

Warmer days are finally here. Make the time to get outside and move!

## Book Club

Happy Spring everyone, book club is starting to wind down for the year by reading **The Great Alone by Kristen Hannah**. In this book we read about a desperate family seeking a new beginning in the wilderness of Alaska. After their move, they find that the unpredictable environment is less threatening than the erratic behavior of some of their family members. If you are interested in discussing this book, wait for the invite that will be coming out soon for more information. Last month we discussed **Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine** by Gail Honeyman. Most of our members enjoyed the book and would recommend it. Eleanor, the main character, experiences something traumatic in her childhood and it is revealed little by little in this book. One question raised was whether a person can really lead a normal life after facing a traumatic event. We heard some interesting insights in discussing this book.

Vivian Dano



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*Nicole Garvin*      *Brandon Waite*  
OWNER      FOREMAN

