



OCTOBER 2019

the Welcome Mat

President's Message



*Carol Figueroa &
Bev Coelho*

Happy Fall!

These past few warm days make it seem like summer but the calendar says it's fall and along with the beginning of fall the club year is getting into full swing. As a social and service club we are making plans for the upcoming club year and the calendar is starting to get filled with many activities. At this time, we would like to thank all the board members and the interest group leaders for stepping up to volunteer and plan the events for our club members. The link to our calendar is on our home page - www.mffnh.org. You will also receive an Evite for each of the events planned so please be sure to RSVP so that the group leaders know who will be attending. Also, if you are interested in being a group leader or even have an idea for a fun event for us to do, please contact Barb at interestgroups@mffnh.org. She will help you get it on the calendar and get the Evite out to the club. Hopefully you can participate in some of the fun activities planned this year. It's always fun to get together with our MFF friends.

We would like to say thank you to everyone who contributed to the yard sales success by donating items, tarps, tables and most of all their time. A big thank you goes to Beth Milliken and Jill Mitchell, our Ways & Means Coordinators, who pulled it all together. The next fundraising event will be held at Merrimack's 27th Annual Halloween Party at Wasserman Park on Friday, October 25th from 5 pm – 8 pm. This is a big community event and it's always a big success. We will be setting up a Halloween prop photo booth and also selling hot dogs, chips, cupcakes and water at the event. More information will be coming soon via Evite from Ways and Means.

This is also the time to get your membership dues in. Your dues help run the club so it is important to either send a check to our P.O. Box 1516 or pay online via our website. Any questions regarding membership please contact Beth and Wilma at membership@mffnh.org.

We look forward to seeing you at our October events!

October calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Oct 05	09:00 AM	Family Outfitters
Oct 08	07:00 PM	Board Meeting
Oct 12	11:00 AM	Elwood Orchards Corn Maze
Oct 15	06:00 PM	Taco Tuesday Info Meeting
Oct 16	06:30 PM	Book club
Oct 20	01:00 PM	Uncanoonuc Mtn hike
Oct 22	07:00 PM	Secret Sisters Potluck
Oct 25	05:00 PM	Town Halloween Event
Oct 31	06:30 PM	Ladies Night Out – Homestead

Please see the Evite for additional information

First Vice President

This position remains open. If you are interested in filling the role, please contact interestgroups@mffnh.org. There is plenty of help available!!

Second Vice President

Barb Gelinas



We are looking for someone to take over the are interested please let me know at interestgroups@mffnh.org! Also, if you are interested in running any other interest groups please let me know.

Lunch Bunch interest group still. If you

Treasurer

*Wilma Cunningham
Bec Coelho*



Check back next

month for updates!



Secretary

Heather Murray

Happy Fall! If you know of any club member who could benefit from help 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! We are always here to help...

Warmest Regards,
Heather Murray

Ways and Means

Beth Milliken and Jill Mitchell



Ways and Means:

Happy Autumn! We want to thank everyone who volunteered their time, donated goods, baked goods, and allowed us to borrow tables, tarps, tents, coat racks, trailers, children and husbands, in order to pull off our semi-annual Charitable Yard Sale. This event takes many people to be successful, and you'll be happy to know we raised \$1,494 for our charitable fund. That makes all the hard work worth it! This month we'll be selling food (hot dogs and chili) at the Town Halloween Party on Friday, October 25, from 5-8:00 PM at Wasserman Park here in Merrimack. Once again, every penny we earn will be deposited into our charitable fund. This is a fun family-friendly event, sponsored by Parks & Rec, and we highly encourage your attendance. Fingers crossed for good weather!

WaysandMeans@MerrimackFriendsFamilies.org

Beth Milliken and Jill Mitchell



Merrimack
Friends & Families



Service

Julie Akers and Tammy Ditman

First, a big thank you to all who helped pick up the trash along Lawrence Rd. MFF cleans the road to the dump twice a year as part of the Adopt-a-Road program and it looks soooo much better now.

Second, please join us at Family OutFilters Thrift Store Saturday, Oct 5 from 9-12. We will be sorting through donations and stocking shelves. The proceeds from the thrift store sales benefit local homeless families by assisting with housing, food and services. Check the evite for info about carpooling. Even an hour of your time would be so appreciated.

Membership

Wilma Cunningham & Beth Voorhees



We will have an Evening Chat at 6:00 pm. The date has been posted on our Facebook page a good way for individuals interested in the club to get more information about us. Please feel free to bring a friend that may be interested in joining.

Tortilla Flats October 15th at and the Patch. The social is a

Please note that the membership form is on our website. The website is www.mffnh.org. Please click the link for Membership Information.

For all our current members it is that time of year to renew your membership with MFF. We hope that you will continue your membership in the club this year. There are many social and charitable activities being planned. We don't want you to miss out on these opportunities so please renew your membership today. The club dues are \$25 and are due by **October 1st**.

You can get your renewal to us in these ways:

- Pay online at square: <https://mkt.com/mff/item/annual-membership-dues>
All online payments now include a \$1.00 processing fee.
- Mail a check payable to MFF to PO Box 1516, Merrimack, NH 03054



We are looking forward to another great year and seeing you at the events. If you have any questions please be sure to contact us.

Thank you,
Wilma Cunningham and Beth Voorhees
2019-2020 Membership Coordinators

membership@merrimackfriendsfamilies.org

Happy Birthday!!



Tanya R	10/08
Kimberly P	10/11
Patricia T	10/14
Dawn L	10/24

Interest Group Happenings

Secret Sisters

It is time to begin the fun! For those of you who have signed up for Secret Sisters, you will receive your Secret Sister's questionnaire in the mail soon (with some basic instructions)! Remember, half the fun is trying to keep yourself anonymous. Don't let her know who you are!

You may use the information provided in your Secret Sister's questionnaire, or use your own judgment, to bring your Secret Sister a small gift each month from October through May. We will get together three times throughout the club year for gift exchange potlucks, with the first potluck happening this month on **Tuesday, October 22nd** (see the Evite invitation for more info). At the May potluck we will reveal who each person's Secret Sister has been. And then in June, you will give a "thank you" gift to the not-so-secret-anymore Sister who had been giving gifts to YOU for the previous eight months! Remember, when a potluck occurs in a given month, this is where the gifts should be exchanged – no need to deliver them anywhere else. If you cannot attend a potluck, be sure to arrange something with me or another member so that everyone still gives and receives a gift!



Merrimack
Friends & Families

In October, January, and May, you should bring your gift to the potluck events in an unmarked brown grocery bag (with the recipient's name on the inside so that I know who to give it to). On non-potluck months, you can slyly bring your gift to her house when you think she won't be home, you can ask another member to help make your delivery, or watch Evite and bring it to an event that you know she will be attending... you have plenty of sneaky options.

Remember, unlike other interest groups, this is a commitment for the entire club year. A very special woman (your Secret Sister) is counting on your full participation. Make sure you've paid your annual MFF membership dues! And if you still have any questions or need more information, please feel free to contact me! This is going to be so much fun!

PS. No, I do not know who my OWN Secret Sister is – I had help in randomly assigning the Secret Sisters for this very reason. Hey, I want to be surprised, too!

Regards,
Jill M

Family Event

Please join us for a hike to the Uncanoonuc Mountains in Goffstown, NH on Sunday, October 20th. Please see the Evite for more information and to RSVP. Hope you can join us.

Ladies Night Out

Please join us for dinner and conversation at The Homestead Restaurant on Wednesday, October 30th at 6:30 pm. I am also looking for any suggestions for future Ladies Night Out. I would love to plan a trip to the movie theater or maybe a movie in. Also, in December, I would like to plan a wrapping party for us together and wrap our gifts outside of prying eyes!! Please contact Carol with any suggestions. Hope to see you on the 30th.

Lunch Bunch

Please check back next month for lunch bunch fun!

Book Club

In October, Book club will be reading **All Systems Red (The Murderbot Diaries)** by Martha Wells. This short science fiction thriller is part of a 4-book series which received a lot of awards in 2018. **All**



Systems Red tackles questions of the ethics of sentient robotics. The main character is a deadly security droid that has bucked its restrictive programming and is balanced between contemplative self-discovery and an idle instinct to kill all humans. This will be a great departure from our usual. Look for our evite for more details.

Book Club would like to thank Eileen Herring for hosting our September discussion of **In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Rescuer** by Irene Gut Opdyke. We had a great first meeting and lively discussion. We found, the first person account by Irene Gut Opdyke in this book, utterly amazing. Vivian Dano



Community Partners

