



MERRIMACK
FRIENDS &
FAMILIES

Est. 1973

MAY 2023

Presidents' Message

Julie Akers & Tammy Ditman



May will be a busy month with many different events. Watch for Evites, join us at one event, several or all.

Also happening in May is the The Greater Nashua Volunteer Fair at the Nashua Public Library. It will be taking place on **Thursday, May 18th from 4pm to 7pm** and WE'LL BE THERE along with 40 other organizations who are looking for volunteers. We hope you'll consider stopping by to see all the good our community is doing and learning about ways to help. You will get the chance to visit with organizations involved with farming, education, senior support, food insecurity, housing insecurity, transportation, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, youth mentorship, veterans, welcoming and supporting immigrants, domestic violence support, conservation and nature, history, art, and healthcare. A list of participating organizations may be found here: <https://unitedwaynashua.org/event/greater-nashua-volunteer-fair/>

Mark your calendars — **Sunday, June 4 from 1:00 - 4:00 MFF will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary!!!** Bring your friends & family to party with us at Abbie Griffin Park. There will be live music on the bandstand, outdoor games and ice cream for everyone. The public is invited to join in the fun at this free, family-friendly event.

As this club year comes to an end we want to thank the Board of Directors for their dedication. This team of wonderful women worked all year to keep our club running smoothly. They organized dozens of social events, fundraisers and community service projects. These ladies also managed the finances, brought in new members and promoted MFF's events on social media. They were truly a pleasure to work with!

We also want to thank MFF member Heather Murray for taking on the role of Election Officer. Heather tallied the votes and worked with the nominees to fill all the positions. We appreciate her help.

The 2023-2024 Board of Directors

- Co-presidents: Julie Akers/Tammy Ditman
- Vice President: Catherine Pepler
- Secretary: Sandy George
- Treasurer: Bev Coelho
- Ways & Means: Carol Figueroa/Beth Voorhees
- Membership: Lisa Cassell/Robin Johnson
- Publicity: Beth Milliken
- Newsletter Editor: Barb Asketh
- Service Coordinators: Laurie Libby/Jill O'Toole



May calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
May 4	4:00 PM	Manchester Taco Tour
May 6	9:00 AM	Member Coffee Social @ Buckleys
May 7	9:00 AM	Road Cleanup
May 8	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
May 9	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenzers
May 16	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenzers
May 22	7:00 PM	Book Club
May 23	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenzers
May 24	7:00 PM	Secret Sister Potluck
May 25	6:00 PM	Library Partnership Night
May 30	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenzers



Vice President

Catherine Pepler



Greetings Members!

It hard to believe we are coming to the end of another year. Oh, what fun we have had. Added new events and activities for you to join in. We have accomplished so much in giving back to our community in providing services and financial support. None of this could be possible without your active participation. We thank you!

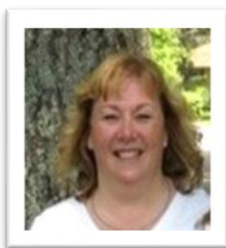
Spring is here and with that comes new beginnings. The new board has been elected and we are thankful for those willing to take on a leadership role. We are so pleased to have developed a partnership with the Merrimack Public Library. Be sure to check the calendar for up coming programs! Hoping you have had an opportunity to join Trivia Tuesdays, Recipe Swap, Lunch bunch just to call out a few. We are interested in your ideas that would build our membership and interesting activities. Please reach out and share your thoughts. Mostly, come out and join us!

Until we meet again,
Catherine Pepler
VP MFF



Treasurer

Bev Coelho



Happy Spring! And Thank you to all who have made contributions this year!

Secretary

Sandy George

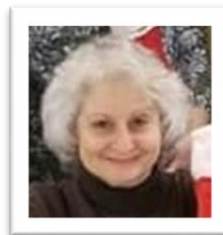


Please remember to let me know if any club member needs help in the form of rides, meals, cards or just someone to talk to. We are here for you all.

Sandy George

Ways and Means

Carol Figueroa & Jill O'Toole



Thank you to everyone who helped out this year with our fundraising events - from setup to baking and everything in between. Our last fundraiser was the Easter Bake Sale at the annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 1st. We were able to raise \$206 despite the rainy day event.

Enjoy the spring and we hope to see you at one of our social events.

Carol and Jill

Service

Laurie Libby



Greetings!

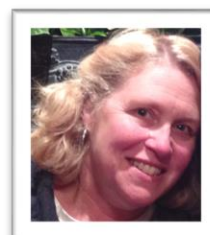
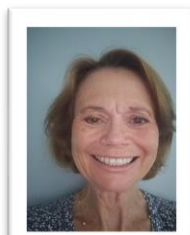
Hard to believe our club year is winding down! I hope there was a good variety of service projects that were of interest to everyone.

The Adopt-a-road clean-up was rescheduled to Sunday 5/7 due to rain in the forecast. We only have a few folks signed up. Hope some of you will consider helping out.

Thanks,
Laurie

Membership

Lisa Casell, Robin Johnson & Beth Voorhees



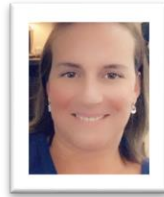
Hope everyone is doing well. Looks like spring is finally here. Membership has one event planned for May. We will be hosting our monthly coffee social at Buckley's Bakery and Cafe on Saturday the 6th of May at 9:00 am. We will meet upstairs. Please join us for coffee and conversation and if you know someone interested in joining MFF, please let them know about this event. Hope to see you there.

Robin, Beth and Lisa



Publicity

Beth Milliken



Please remember to send pictures of your MMF related events to Beth so that we can include them on our Facebook and Instagram pages, along with in our future newsletters. It's so nice to be able to share with our members how much fun we have! When you send, please let me know a quick summary of what the pictures are of.

Happy Holidays Everyone!
Beth



Happy Birthday!!



Lisa C	5/16
Ann Marie W	5/21
Dorian W	5/29
Katie B	6/8
Jill M	6/12
Beth M	6/12
Beth V	6/20



Sue S	6/25
Tammy D	6/30
Robin J	7/5
Julie A	7/6
Bev C	7/8
Donna G	7/17
Vivian D	7/20
Rose S	7/21
Wilma C	7/26
Eileen H	8/12
Sharon B	8/22
Carol F	8/29

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! And we will have a group reveal party this month on **Wednesday, May 24th!** Please see the Evite invitation for more details.

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.

Again, thank you for your participation.

Regards,
Jill Mitchell

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## Fitness Friends

Nothing planned this month. Enjoy spring!



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## Book Club

Hi all, we had a great time at Bunny's house eating clam chowder and talking about the March and April books. In March our book was Wicked Pissed: New England's Most Famous Feuds by Ted Reinstein. Ted Reinstein is best known as a journalist and reporter for "Chronicle," Boston's TV newsmagazine much like our own Fritz Wetherbee. This book tells the background story about a lot of feuds involving sports, politics, food, finance, aviation, engineering and boundaries that have been around for centuries. If you want to learn the story behind some of the history of New England this was a delightful read. It is a short book. If you are interested in listening to a bit of what is in the book go to the following link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGWrlsFgfhE> where Ted talks about some of the feuds he expounds on in the book. For those who read the book, we enjoyed the knowledge gained in this somewhat humorous accounting of the feuds.

Our April book was One in a million Boy by Monica Wood. This book had us thinking about living life fully no matter what your age. The book is a story about a 104 year old woman and the young boy who has been sent to help her and how their friendship changed the woman's life. We all seemed to enjoy the book despite some lists some found monotonous and passages that should have been read out loud or listened to rather than reading. If you can find this as an audio book I think you will truly get the most from this book.

We have two more meetings this year before we take our summer break. The book for May is The Midnight Library by Matt Haig which takes us on a journey between life and death to a library which allows us to make other choices in our life than the ones we have already chosen. It seems like it will be an awesome and thought provoking journey.

The book for June is Still Life by Louise Penny. Still Life is a mystery in which we investigate a suspicious death committed just south of Montreal. We meet Chief Inspector Armand Gamache who solves the mystery along with his team of investigators. This should prove to be an intriguing book to read before the summer.

Please check the evite for meeting times and places. We would love for you to join us.

Sandy George

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## Lunch Bunch

Look for an Evite mid May for our next Lunch!







# Recipe Swap

Look for an Evite mid May for our next Swap!

