

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 9



the

Welcome Mat



Carol Figueroa

President's Message

February is Here!!!

I hope you have been having a good healthy winter so far and were not hit by the nasty flu bug that seems to be making its way around town!

This month we have some fun events planned. I hope you will be able to join us when we visit the Currier Art Museum in Manchester on Saturday, February 9th. The admission is free for NH residents so I hope you have the opportunity to visit with us that morning. It is a treasure just located up the highway from us. Please be sure to check out the Evite for more information and to RSVP.

Coming up towards the end of the month, we will be participating in the Merrimack Parks & Recreation's 27th Annual Winter Carnival at Wasserman Park. The carnival is on Saturday, February 24th and will run from 12pm to 3pm. We will be selling hot dogs, chips and water in the function hall as a fundraiser for our charitable fund. If you can help out at this event please mark your calendar and look for the Evite to RSVP. We always have a great time! There are many activities already planned and it should be a fun day. For more information about the different activities please check the Parks & Rec website: <https://merrimackparksandrec.org/winter-carnival>

How you stay warm and healthy!! See you soon!

Yours in friendship,
Carol

February calendar

Feb-3	10:00am Superbowl Chili 5k
Feb-9	10:00am Currier Museum
Feb-15	9:00am Coffee Chat at Buckley's
Feb-19	11:30am Lunch at Purple Finch Cafe
Feb-20	7:00pm Book club
Feb-22	7:00pm Drinks at The Homestead
Feb-23	12:00pm Winter Carnival

Please see the Evite for additional information

Second Vice President

Barb Amaral



There is always room for new interest groups! If there is anything you are interested in leading, please let me know! The social aspect of the club is run by the interest groups leaders. Also, one-time events are a fun way to get the membership together. If you are interested in running a one-time event I can help you set up the evite. These events could be anything from going to the movies to visiting a museum. Please contact me at interestgroups@merrimackfriendsfamilies.org for more information.



Secretary

Jill Mitchell

Happy February! 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. Winter can be a tough time for some folks who could really use our help. 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. Stay warm and stay safe!

Warmest Regards,
Jill Mitchell



Ways and Means

Beth Milliken and Wendy Thomas



Coming up this month we have Wasserman Park. It will be on Wasserman Park. The evite will be looking for people to volunteer time and/or donate goods or funds toward the event. It is a great fundraiser for MFF and a great time to spend with friends and family in Merrimack. We hope to see you there!

the Winter Carnival at Saturday February 23rd at going out very soon with more details. We will be

We have more fundraising thoughts in the works, but are always looking for ideas. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us to discuss anything, even if not a fully formed idea, and we can look into it. Let's see how much fun we can have while helping our town at the same time!

Beth Milliken and Wendy Thomas



Service

Julie Akers and Bev Coelho

date

We will be volunteering at the St. James food pantry but a firm date has not been set yet. The pantry is relocating to the main part of the church building which will give them more space. As soon as they are settled and we hear about a date in late February or early March an Evite will be sent.

On Saturday, March 9 we will be volunteering at Family OutFITters thrift shop. As in previous years we will be sorting donations, stocking shelves and hanging clothes on store racks. All proceeds from sales at the thrift shop benefit Women In Transition-New Horizons, a non-profit that provides food, affordable housing, and services to homeless families and individuals in NH. Please consider volunteering for this event. We can arrange carpooling if you are interested.



Membership

Dawn LeGay & Linda Varela



Hello Friends,

Hope you're all staying warm! Please

blues by having coffee with us Saturday, February 15th at Buckley's and/or drinks with us Friday, February 22nd at the Homestead. Evites for both events will be coming, hope you can make it!

Best,

Dawn and Linda

join us in beating the winter

Happy Birthday!!



Leslie H

02/20

Interest Group Happenings

Secret Sisters

It's hard to believe that January is over! The holidays have come and gone. The hustle and bustle has settled down. However, Secret Sisters just keep on giving! Isn't this fun?

Our second Gift Exchange Potluck occurred in January, and it was another success. As always, we had a good time. It's hard to believe that at our next potluck in May we get to tell our Secret Sisters who we are!



Remember, if you'd like to submit a quick "thank you" note in the monthly newsletter Personals section to let your SS know how much you loved your gift, please send a quick note to Barb and she will ensure it gets published!

For February, you are on your own delivering your gift to your SS. Keep doing what you're doing – it's working!

Again, thank you for your participation. Here's hoping that 2019 has started off on the right foot!

Regards,
Jill Mitchell

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

Please join us for lunch at the Purple Finch Café on Tuesday, February 19th. The Purple Finch Café is located at 124 South River Road in Bedford. Please meet us there at 11:30 or if you would like to carpool please meet at the Exit 12 Shaw's by 11:10 am.

Please RSVP by Monday, February 18th via the Evite.

Fitness Friends

Happy February Fitness Friends! We are past the half way point of our 8 week challenge, keep up the great work.

Please reach out to the group via our Facebook page if you would like company for a walk, workout, hike or any other activity. There is strength in numbers!

You got this!

Dawn

Book Club

This February, our book club will be reading **Station Eleven**, a science fiction novel written by Emily St. John Mandel. The Georgia Flu sweeps across the world, killing most of humanity. Our author, follows the lives of various survivors, tracing how their lives intersect in a group of entertainers call



Traveling Symphony. The story line jumps back and forth between before the apocalypse and after as we follow the characters personal worlds under duress under both timelines. As readers, we are shown a world where hell is the absence of the people you long for. This is a character driven story and I hope you enjoy it and come to our February discussion meeting to discuss it. Look for our evite in February for more information.

January's discussion was on **Atomic City Girls** by Janet Beard. This is a historical fiction story on how the United States built a city in Oak Ridge Tennessee during the 1940's to enrich uranium for the Atomic Bomb. Most of the people they employed did not know what they were working on. Our view of the book was that it did not focus on the women as the title states. It had a very simplistic story line. We were given fewer details about the project than we had hoped. Many of us thought that the non-fiction book called **The Girls of Atomic City** by Denise Kiernan may shed more light as to the stories of the girls on this project. Still, this was a fascinating subject that none of our book club members had any knowledge about.

Vivian Dano / Book Club



Community Partners

