

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 8



the Welcome Mat



*Carol
Figueroa*

Presidents' Perspective

February is Here!!!

Groundhog Day is tomorrow!! Will there be 6 more weeks of winter? It sure does feel and look like it. I hope you have been having a good healthy winter and were not hit by the nasty flu bug that is making its way around town!

This month will be participating in the Merrimack Parks & Rec 26th Annual Winter Carnival on Saturday, February 24th. The carnival will run from 12pm to 3pm. We will be selling hot dogs, chips, hot chocolate and water in the function hall as a fundraiser for the 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 at this event. 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:

<http://www.merrimackparksandrec.org/w-carnival.html>

Please be sure to check out the calendar to see what events have been planned for this month. As always if there is something you want to do and would like to set up a "One Night (or day) Stand" please contact Barb to get it on the calendar. She can help you setting up the Evite and getting the information out. We are always open to suggestions for events. This is your club and we love to see everyone get involved.

I hope to see you at an event this month.
Stay warm and stay healthy.

Yours in friendship,
Carol

February EVENTS

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Feb-4	9:30am	Chili 5K
Feb-6	7:00pm	Monthly Board Meeting
Feb-8	7:00pm	Recipe Swap - Post Super Bowl Menu
Feb-13	10:00am	Volunteer at St. James Food Pantry
Feb-13	7:00pm	Membership Mixer at Homestead
Feb-17	9:00am	Membership Coffee Chat at Buckley's
Feb-21	7:00pm	MFF Book Club Meeting
Feb-23	11:30am	Lunch at the Lilac Blossom in Nashua
Feb-24	12:00pm	26th Annual Winter Carnival Wasserman

Please see the Evite for additional information

First Vice President - Open

For this month's membership mixer we are joining with membership and getting together at the Homestead Restaurant on Tuesday, February 13th at 7 pm. We hope you can join us and if you know someone who may be interested in learning more about MFF please invite them. We'll use this evening as an opportunity to inspire new members to join our club.

We will meet upstairs. Hope to see you there!



Second Vice President

Barb Amaral



Secretary

Jill Mitchell



Many events are being planned. Please see the club calendar for the events. You should receive an Evite to RSVP.

If you're interested in becoming a group leader or have an idea for a One Night Stand, please send an email to interestgroups@merrimackfriendsfamilies.org

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

Thank you to everyone that attended the Paint and Sip Fundraiser. We all had a great time and raised \$195.00 for our charitable Fund! A big thank you to Art Happens of Milford and to Barb for welcoming us into her home for this event.



Beth Milliken

We have more fundraising thoughts in the works, but are always looking for ideas. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me 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!

Service



Julie Akers and Bev Coelho

Please join us on Tuesday, February 13 from 10:00-1:00 as we volunteer at the St. James food pantry. We will be sorting through donations from the public and getting those items on shelves. This food pantry serves numerous families in our town who would otherwise go without the essentials you and I take for granted. Even if you can only donate an hour or two your time will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your help.

Happy Birthday



Deborah Brancheau	2/17
Melissa Cruz	2/22



Membership

Dawn LeGay



Now that the busy holiday season is behind us Membership mixers are back. We hope you can come out and join us to catch up on Tuesday February 13th at 7pm at the Homestead or on Saturday February 17th at 9am at Buckley's Cafe.

Looking forward to seeing you again!

Dawn

Publicity

Nicole Castronovo



Please consider submitting MFF events to Publicity that you want publicized.

Interest Group leaders can submit photos of their events they would like to have highlighted on Facebook and Twitter.

Please submit to publicity@merrimackfriendsfamilies.org

Community Partners

Brian Bradish
Master Plumber
424-9562

BRADISH
PLUMBING SERVICES

Merrimack, NH
NH Lic # 8158
ME Lic # 5985

kw
KELLERWILLIAMS.
AMANDA REICHERT
REALTOR®

CELL/TEXT: 603.377.0281
OFC: 603.883.8400
ReichertRealtyGroup@gmail.com
www.ReichertRealtyGroup.KWRealty.com

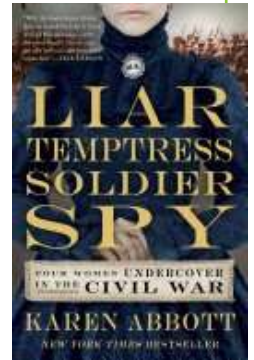
Each office is independently owned and operated.




Interest Group Happenings

Book Club

February's Book Club selection is **Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy** by Karen Abbott. This is a nonfiction account of four women who risked everything to become spies during the Civil War. Two women for the North and two for the South risked everything for their side to win. One of these ladies, disguised herself as a man and fought, nursed and spied for the Union. All of these ladies lived stories that seem larger than life. This book should give us plenty to talk about. It is a long book. Don't wait to get started. Remember, even if you don't finish the book, you are more than welcome to attend the discussion. Watch for the evite to get more details.



Last month, Book Club discussed **The Winter Sea** by Susanna Kearsley. It was a historical fiction that was very captivating. Our members liked the book but were not totally buying the genetic memory premise that allowed the main character to jump between the present and the past. Still, a good read.

Come, relax and meet new friends at Book Club. Discussions are always voluntary. Check us out.

Vivian Dano
MFF Book Club

Recipe Swap

February's recipe swap theme is "Post-SuperBowl Healthy-ish Food." So many of us will be eating cheesy, fried, heavy snacks during the SuperBowl so let's lighten things up a bit and have fun too. Make whatever food or drink you want to share and bring it along with copies of your recipe and a container to bring home leftovers. The idea is to have a potluck dinner with friends and with food that's on the lighter, healthier side.

Looking forward to seeing you Thursday, 2/8. Please see the Evite to RSVP.

Julie

Lunch Bunch

For February lunch we are having Chinese. Let's meet at the Lilac Blossom located at 650 Amherst Street in Nashua on Friday, February 23rd at 11:30 am. They have a great lunch menu.

I hope you can join us.

Carol



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 Wilma at cunninghamwilma@hotmail.com, 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 2018 has started off on the right foot!

Regards,
Jill Mitchell