



MERRIMACK  
FRIENDS &  
FAMILIES

Est. 1973

MARCH 2025

50+ YEARS OF CELEBRATING MERRIMACK!!  
1973-2025



## Presidents' Message

*Julie Akers & Tammy Ditman*



One antidote to feeling bored and isolated during this long, cold winter is spending time with your MFF friends. We have lots of fun things planned for mornings, afternoons, evenings and weekends. Join us for coffee & conversation at Buckley's Bakery Saturday morning, play Tuesday trivia at Able Ebenezer Brewery (they just started selling wine & non-alcoholic beverages), join the discussion at Monday evening book club, explore the Currier Art Museum on a Saturday morning, help with a St. Patrick's party at Rose Haven assisted living, meet up for lunch at a local restaurant or join friends for a Saturday morning potluck brunch. And if you ever have an idea of something you'd like to do (a movie, concert, restaurant, park, etc.) let a board member know and we can help arrange it and get MFF members involved. Life is so much more exciting and fun when you get involved!

Julie and Tammy

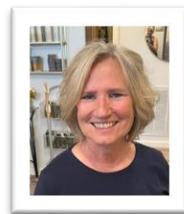
## March Calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
March 8	10:00 AM	Currier Art Museum
March 9	9:00 AM	Walking Group
March 11	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezer
March 12	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
March 13	1:00 PM	Crafts Event @ Rose Haven
March 14	12:00 PM	Lunch@ Longhorn Steakhouse
March 16	9:00 AM	Walking Group
March 17	7:00 PM	Book Club
March 18	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezer
March 19	5:00 PM	Wine Down Wednesday @ Common Man
March 22	2:00 PM	Bowling Party @ Merrimack Ten Pin
March 23	9:00 AM	Walking Group
March 25	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezer
March 30	9:00 AM	Walking Group

Please see the Evites for additional information.

## Vice President

*Catherine Pepler*



Greetings members,

February certainly turned out to be a snowy month for us! Making up for the years of no snow, I guess. I hope that you are all staying safe and warm and enjoying this winter weather. I hope that you get out

to enjoy snowshoeing or hiking or skiing, all the fun things that we do in New England during the winter.

As you can see from our calendar, we have a very busy schedule of offerings for you. I hope that you follow the Evites to enjoy spending time with other members, meeting up with old friends and new friends alike. There's so much more about to unfold as the year progresses.

As a reminder, this is the time to cash your ballot, either nominate yourself or someone else for a position on the board. I do ask that you do have a conversation with the person that you nominate to ensure that they do want to participate in that role.

As always in friendship and looking forward to seeing you soon,

Catherine

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## Treasurer

*Bev Coelho*



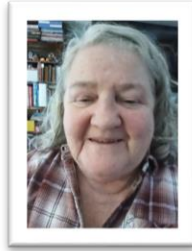
Hope to see you at a club event soon!

Bev

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## Secretary

*Sandy George*



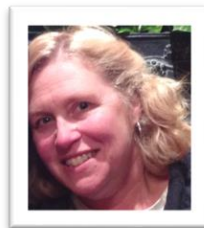
Remember to let me know if a club member needs a little bit of extra help. Help can come in the form of a ride, a meal or two, a friendly shoulder to lean on or maybe just a phone call.

Sandy

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## Ways and Means

*Beth Voorhees & Karen Contos*



Happy March! We all know we will see some great beautiful days and maybe still some snow or cold weather. As Easter is later this year, the Merrimack Easter hunt is not until April 12. We will have baked goods and we'll sell water and juice boxes. As we get later into March, I will send the Evite out if people would like to sign up to make baked goods or to help at the bake sale.

As a reminder all baked good items need to be packaged separately, and if you're donating, please put a piece of paper in the bag or container that says what you are bringing. Don't hesitate to check the Evite list to see what others are bringing so that we can have a good variety.

Julie Akers will be the Easter bunny again, and who doesn't want a picture with the Easter bunny?

We had a great winter carnival bake sale and despite it being cold and the numbers were down a little, we still made over \$400 and sold out of the chili! Thank you everyone for your generous donations and for all the volunteers who signed up. Karen and I really appreciate it.

Beth



## Service

*Laurie Libby*



A big thank you to everyone who generously donated items for the Brooke's Purses project in February. The project coordinator was very thankful for our efforts.

We will be doing a craft project with the residents of Rose Haven on Thursday March 13th. Many hands are helpful. The Evite is out.

The annual Easter Basket project is coming up next supporting the Welfare office in providing Easter treats for families in need. The Evite should be out by the end of this month containing items needed. If you are unable to attend the basket filling event donated items would be greatly appreciated.

Stay warm, spring is just around the corner!

Laurie

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## Membership

*Robin Johnson*



Welcome to March, hopefully spring is just around the corner. First, I would like to welcome our new member, Meagan Hogan.

Has a new person moved into your neighborhood? Do you know someone interested in joining MFF? Please let them know about our monthly Saturday coffee social at Buckley's Bakery and Cafe. Hope to see you there.

In addition, Membership will be hosting a "Wine Down Wednesday" on Wednesday March 19th at 5:00 at The Common Man. Keep a look out for the Evite and please join us for a beverage and conversation.

Robin

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## Publicity

*Carol Figueroa*



Please remember to send pictures of your MFF related events to me so that I can include them on our Facebook and Instagram pages. 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.

Carol





## Happy Birthday!!



|              |      |
|--------------|------|
| Bunny K.     | 3/18 |
| Catherine P. | 3/28 |

## Interest Group Happenings

### Secret Sisters

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

For March and April, you are on your own delivering your gifts to your SS. Keep doing what you're doing – it's working!

Remember, sometimes your SS wants to make sure you received your gift from her, but for obvious reasons, she cannot come right out and ask you! So, it is always nice to submit a quick "thank you" note in the monthly Personals section of this newsletter just to let her know you got it! It is not required, but it is certainly a great gesture. Just send a quick note to our newsletter editor, and she'd be happy to publish it.

Please save the date for our final "reveal" party on Wednesday, May 28.

Again, thank you for your participation.

Regards,  
Jill Mitchell





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## Fitness Friends

Please join us for our Sunday walks!

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## Monday Night Book Club

We met last month to discuss *Mom and Me and Mom* written by Maya Angelou. We had an interesting talk about relationships between mothers and daughters but almost all agreed that the book was a bit disappointing. The positive part was the book was an easy read and very short.

Over the next few months, we will be reading and discussing the following books:

- March 17 – *Girls Like Us* by Christine Alger
- April 24 – *The Downstairs Girl* by Stacey Lee
- May 19 – *The Boys* by Ron and Clint Howard
- June 16 – *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt

Please watch for the evites to see where and exactly when we will be meeting. The list may change if the library has trouble obtaining enough books for the club.

I would love to see more members join us even if only for one or two books. We always have a lively discussion and a lot of fun.

Sandy

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## Lunch Bunch

Please join us on Friday, March 14th at noon for our March lunch. We will meet at the Longhorn Steakhouse located at 124 State Route 101A in Amherst. They offer a lunch menu. Hope you can join us.

Carol

