



MERRIMACK
FRIENDS &
FAMILIES

Est. 1973

OCTOBER 2025

50+ YEARS OF CELEBRATING MERRIMACK!!
1973-2025



Presidents' Message

Julie Akers & Tammy Ditman



"Making friends & making a difference" is the MFF motto. This is your club so make the most of it! Get involved, meet new people and have fun.

As always, you can join us for trivia at the brewery on Tuesday evenings, weekend coffee & conversation upstairs at Buckley's Bakery, lunch at a local restaurant, and a lively conversation at book club. Watch your email for an invite to an autumn weekend hike. Invite your friends and family to join apple picking and try not to get lost in a corn maze.

Helpers are needed to distribute Halloween costumes and accessories to children at the library. Volunteers are needed to help at the 33rd Annual Merrimack Halloween Party at Wasserman Park on Saturday, Oct 25. MFF will be selling hotdogs, drinks and homemade baked goods. Please consider bake some Halloween themed treats and/or lend a hand at the food sales. This is a wonderful, free event for young families and MFF has been participating since the beginning.

"The greatest gift of life is friendship." - Hubert Humphrey

Julie and Tammy

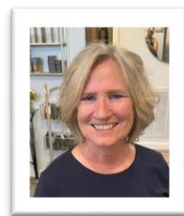
October Calendar

DATE	TIME	EVENT
October 4	9:00 AM	Halloween Costume Distribution @ Library
October 4	9:00 AM	Membership Coffee @ Buckley's
October 4	1:00 PM	Family Fun Event @ Elwood Orchards
October 7	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezer
October 9	7:00 PM	Secret Sisters Potluck
October 14	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezer
October 14	7:00 PM	Board Meeting
October 19	9:00 AM	Membership Walk @ Outlets
October 20	7:00 PM	Book Club
October 21	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezer
October 25	12:00 PM	Merrimack Halloween Party @ Wasserman Park
October 27	12:30 PM	Lunch @ K'sone's Thai
October 28	6:00 PM	Trivia @ Able Ebenezer

Please see the Evites for additional information.

Vice President

Catherine Pepler



What beautiful weather we have been enjoying! There are plenty of activities to get out in the fresh air like apple and pumpkin picking, corn mazes, outlet walks, and more. Come join us!

Catherine

Treasurer

Bev Coelho

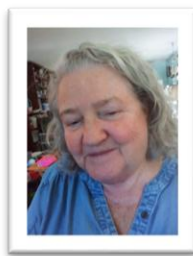


Welcome back to a New Club Year! It is that time to renew your membership. You can pay by check, use the link on the MFF website under Membership, or Venmo me. The Patriots emblem is my picture. If you renew by check or Venmo, membership is \$25. If you pay by credit card through the website link, membership is \$26 to help cover the online processing fee.

Bev

Secretary

Sandy George

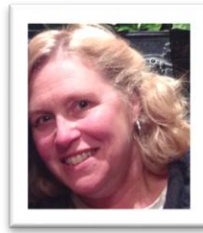


Hi All, we are off to a great start this year. Remember, if you know of someone looking for help due to surgery, etc. just send me a message so I can send out an evite looking for help for that person. Make sure you look for your birthday card from the club. These messages come from Gotfreecards.com and should say "You have received an ecard from MFF" in the subject line.

Sandy

Ways and Means

Beth Voorhees & Karen Contos



Happy Fall!

We got off to a great start in fundraising with the Annual Yard Sale. Thank you for all the help in form of donations, tables, the trips to the dump, and all the volunteers- it is so appreciated! Now we look towards pumpkins, leaves changing, and our Town Halloween party on Saturday October 25th from 12-2:00 pm. The Evite will be coming out shortly - please sign up to volunteer or bake goodies.

Beth and Karen

Service

Robin Johnson



For October, we will again be partnering with S.C.A.R.E. to distribute costumes at the Merrimack Library. This will take place on Saturday October 4th from 9:00 to 12:00. Sign up for a time slot in the Evite. If you have any costumes to donate, you can bring them to the event or drop them off at my house. In November, we will once again be partnering with Operation Care for Troops to fill stockings for the troops. More information to follow. If anyone has any ideas for future service projects, please let me know.

Robin



Membership

Laurie Libby & Cat Lansman



Happy fall!

Our monthly Membership Coffee is on Saturday 10/4 at 9:00 at Buckley's. The Evite is out, hope to see you there and be sure to bring a friend or neighbor along who might be interested in joining our group! We will be scheduling a membership walk at the outlets on Sunday 10/19.

Laurie and Cat

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!!



Pat T.	10/14
Dawn L.	10/24
Cindy T.	10/27

Interest Group Happenings

Secret Sisters

It's time to begin the fun! For those of you who have signed up for Secret Sisters this club year, you have now received the invitation to our first event on **Thursday, October 9th**. That evening, we will get our secret assignments, enjoy a fun gift exchange, eat and be jolly.

At the party, once received, 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 moving forward until May. We will get together two more times throughout the club year for gift exchange potlucks (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 seven 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!

In summary, you will provide a gift each month between October-June.

- Three of those months, gifts will be exchanged at our Potluck parties – October, January, and May (with October being a Yankee Swap gift).
- You or your designated "Delivery Person" will deliver gifts to your Secret Sister the other months – November, December, February, March, and April.

- 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 months!

The value should be kept around **\$20 for your monthly gift**. And we ask that no one "double dip" and buy one large, more expensive gift to count for multiple months. We'll review the process and "what if" scenarios at the first potluck so that no one feels overwhelmed.

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!

Regards,
Jill M.

Monday Night Book Club

We had our first meeting of this year at my house. We had a great discussion about *The Women* by Kristin Hannah. There were mixed feelings about the book. If you are interested in hosting book club, we need hosts for February, March and April. I have hosts for the next few months. Meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month starting at 7:00pm unless otherwise noted in the evite. If you do not get an evite around the beginning of the month let me know so you do not miss our meeting. Our December meeting will be on December 8 so we don't interfere with other activities scheduled in December. The location of meetings will be in the evite. Books should be available from the Merrimack library midway through the month before our meeting which hopefully gives you plenty of time to read the book.

Tentatively the books for the beginning of next year are:

Month	Book and author	Genre/number of pages
October – pick up in mid-September	<i>The Henna Artist</i> by Alka Joshi	Fic/384 pages
November – pick up in mid-October	<i>Unlikely Animals</i> by Annie Hartnett	Fan/348 pages
December – pick up in mid-November	<i>The Time Keeper</i> by Mitch Albom	Fan/224 pages

We will do a book exchange in December so keep that in mind between now and then. At the same time, we also gift the recipient of the book exchange with a bookmark. Please wrap the books and the bookmarks for the exchange. They will be handed out together.



I am looking forward to seeing you on October 20 to discuss The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi.

Sandy

Lunch Bunch

Please join us on Monday, October 27th at 12:30 pm for the October Lunch Bunch. We will meet at the K'sone's Thai Dining located at 493 Amherst Street in Nashua. Hope you can join us.

Carol
