

Open Positions!!!

There are several positions still needing to be filled. Please see the description and see if you can volunteer. Please review the position and contact a co-leader. Our group is run by volunteers all with busy schedules, but most positions take only 2-5 hours a month. Please see if a position interests you.

The open positions are:

Co-Leader--This person is responsible for communicating with members, coordinating chapter meetings and board meetings, addressing members' concerns and communicating with the national office.

Finance Director—This person is responsible for all funds received to our chapter. Reports income as well as outgoing purchases to our membership at monthly board meetings. Also responsible for financial work for the resale and any other fundraisers.

Membership Director--This person is responsible for coordinating membership functions as part of a dynamic team! Identify and implement ways to increase membership and member retention.

Programming Director--This person is responsible for planning and organizing at least one program, each month. These programs will be open to all members and the public and should include a variety of topics and interests for all mothers. These programs should primarily be held at night and without children. A report will be submitted at each board meeting on planned events.

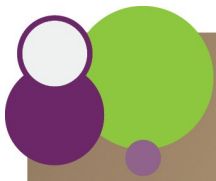
Small Groups Director--This person is responsible for assisting members creating new small groups, checking the M&M Yahoo! Calendar to make sure there is no conflict with another event at the same time of date, contacting small group coordinators and keeping all information up to date.

Outreach and Advocacy Director —This person is responsible for planning and organizing outreach and advocacy activities for our members to participate in. Past outreach and advocacy events and the national loop will be available for references and ideas. A report will be submitted at each board meeting.

Newsletter Editor—This position is responsible for producing the monthly newsletter. This person reports to the Internal Communications Director.

Membership Enrollment Coordinator—This person sends information to potential members about our group. They will also be working with the Membership Team to plan and organize two Welcome Coffees and two New Member events. This person reports to the Membership Director.

Member Care Coordinator—Maintains a list of members interested in providing meals to members in need due to childbirth or serious family emergency and contacts list as needed. This person reports to the Membership Director.



Co-Leader's Corner

Hi Moms!

I'm writing this just after returning from our Family Outing to Royal Oaks! What a great fall day, a bit blustery, but great fun nonetheless! I hope you are taking advantage of all your membership in our group has to offer...the outings for you as well as family, participating on the loop, meeting new moms, taking advantage of the deals at Abenity, volunteering or selling your children's outgrown clothes & toys at the resale...the list goes on! And all of this is available to you because of the great volunteers we have in our chapter!

As you know, this may be our last newsletter, unless someone (maybe you!) steps up to be our Newsletter Editor. This is only one of a few critical positions we have open, but it is pretty important. If you are reading this now and enjoy reading the newsletter, please consider stepping up! You can use Microsoft Publisher (and Carolyn can show you the format), Microsoft Word or any other program you like to use. The key is having someone to take a few hours to gather information, type it up, and get it to the printer. Truly a few hours a month. It would be very sad if this were the last newsletter. We have members who are not on the loop, so they will not get information about our group activities. We know many of you use the calendar to help plan your month. And our National leaders can tell us that when groups stop publishing a paper newsletter, enrollment declines and some groups fold. I truly hope that does not happen to our chapter. Yet, it can be our reality if "someone" does not step up and volunteer their time. We are all busy and have lots on our plates. If something is really important to you, you will find the time to do it.

So, take a few minutes to think about the group and what it means to you. If this is your time to step up as Newsletter Editor, please contact Carolyn or me and we will be happy to get you started!

Happy Fall!

Jackie

***Babies in arms are
welcomed to
ALL Mothers & More events!***

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Seasoned Moms

Trader Joe's Tour

Ever wonder what's so great about Trader Joe's? Why do people love it so much? What's to love? Is it worth the drive?

Join member and Trader Joe's expert Karen Lampert as she show us around the store and points out her favorite products. The store will have samples for us to enjoy.

Mothers & More will provide each member with a \$5 gift card to give us a little incentive to break out of our routine and try something new. So come join us!

When: Wednesday, November 9, 1:00PM—2:00PM

Where: Trade Joe's in Algonquin Commons, 1800 South Randall Road



Celebrate In Style with Eddie Ross

Let's get tips on how to create stylish table setting, dazzling centerpieces, and artful presentations for holiday fare with Eddie Ross!

Lifestyle expert and former Martha Stewart Living editor, Eddie Ross, will bring his holiday charm to the Woodstock Opera House. A graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, his career began in television as a food editor on Martha Stewart Living, and later as Associate Design Director at Food Network.

When: Thursday, November 17, 10:00AM seating will begin at 9:30AM

Where: Woodstock Opera House

Cost: \$23, Mothers & More will reimburse each member a portion of their ticket cost.



Save The Date

Join Seasoned Moms for a wine and chocolate tasting party for us at Exclusively Napa in downtown Crystal Lake! We will sample several different varieties of wines that will be specially selected to pair nicely with some chocolates their resident chef creates. We will also receive a 10% discount on our retail purchases. Their wines will make nice holiday gifts!

When: Friday, December 2, 1:00PM—2:30PM

Where: Exclusively Napa, 35 N. Williams Street, Crystal Lake

Small Groups

Recipe Groups

First Tuesday Recipe Group

November Details: Tuesday, November 2, 7:00PM

Theme: Finger lickin' good finger foods!

HotDishes Recipe Group

November Details: Tuesday, November 15, 7:00PM

Theme: Favorite "Taste of Home" Recipes

BUNCO!
BUNCO!
BUNCO!

No Bunco this month.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!!!

Working Moms

How would you like an afternoon of fun to taste some great fall wines and get ready for the holidays?

What: Domestic Spectacular Wine Tasting

When: Saturday, November 12, at 2:00PM—5:00PM

Where: Binnys of Algonquin (located next to the ToysRUs on Randall).

It is an open house wine tasting so we can come anytime during those hours. Let's meet there at 3:00PM.

Cost: \$10 per person. Mothers & More will pay for a portion of the event.



Social Outings Candy Train Class

We will all meet out at Season's by Peg and take a candy train making class together. We will take our creation home to enjoy as a holiday centerpiece, ornament or simply to eat and enjoy!

When: Thursday, December 8, 6:00PM—8:00PM

Where: Seasons by Peg on the Woodstock Square

Cost: \$15 per person. The cost is payable when you call to reserve your spot. Mothers & More will be giving a partial reimbursement to all members that attend that evening.

Upcoming events to save the date:

December—Holiday Pottery Painting at Homemade on Main, time and date TBD

Social Cutings

Mom's Day Out A Very Special Holiday Tea at The Little Traveler

As the holidays approach we are heading south for a very special Mom's Day Out. Travel will be on our own or we can carpool. We are venturing out a bit and heading to Geneva, IL, for an afternoon of shopping and of course, a fabulous holiday tea. We will meet in Geneva at the Little Traveler shop in downtown Geneva at Noon. If you have never been here, it is simply an amazing store with many shops within the store. We will walk from room-to-room as we browse their many beautiful Christmas items along with wines, gourmet foods, candies, Brighton, crystal, holiday décor, clothing, children's wear, toys, Vera Bradley, beautiful jewelry, purses, antiques, home décor, Kitchen Shop lines and so much more! This is a fabulous store and a great place to pick up Christmas gifts for family, friends and teachers. We will all be seated together at 2:00PM to enjoy a wonderful 3-course holiday tea. We will enjoy tea sandwiches, scones, breads, sweets and a variety of teas.



Arrive early if you would like extra time to walk and browse the many other shop along Third Street in downtown Geneva. There is much to see or stay longer to enjoy shopping after our tea. We will meet on the front porch of The Little Traveler at Noon.

Where: The Little Traveler, 404 South Third Street, Geneva, IL, www.littletraveler.com

When: Thursday, November 10, meet at Noon to shop and tea will be at 2:00PM

Cost: \$12.95 per person plus tax and gratuity. This is a pay on your own event with some reimbursement money from Mothers & More paid to every member that attends that day.

The Woodstock Victorian Christmas Ladies Night Out

We will drive on our or carpool for this event. We will meet on the steps on the Woodstock Opera House at 6:00PM or arrive later if you can't be there at 6:00PM. We will browse the shops on the square and enjoy the many festivities that the merchants on the square will be offering to all the ladies for this very special evening. There will be store raffles, give-a-ways, food samplings and other special offerings at each store. Come early if you would like to have dinner on the square and then meet up with our group later or stop for a light meal afterwards if you prefer.

Where: Woodstock Square in Woodstock, IL

When: Thursday, December 1, 6:00PM—9:00PM

Family Cutings

Save the Date

Family Open Swim

Come and swim in Healthbridge's Huntley pool. It is a heated pool with a zero depth location and slide for the little ones. There is a larger slide for the older kids and also a therapy heated pool.

When: Saturday, January 21, 2012

Time: 3:00PM—5:00PM

Where: Healthbridge, 10450 Algonquin Road, Huntley, IL

Cost: Free

Need to bring: towels for family, swim suit, swim diapers for babies, can bring pool toys. This is a swim only event.



I have room for 50 non-Healthbridge members. I will add your name to a list and when you get to the pool you will need to find your name and sign next to it. You will need to sign for each person individually. If you are planning on coming and are a current Healthbridge member you will not affect the number we have a limit for. Let me know if you are a current Healthbridge member.

Pool Rules: An adult must accompany any child under the age of 14. All children must be accompanied by adult to be in the warm pool. Rafts, inner tubes built into a swim suit, baby inner tubes, water wings, inflatable or innertubes of any kind are prohibited. Lifejackets are permitted. If have a swim diaper on child must have reusable swim cover over it too. No strollers allowed on swim deck. Must be 42" to go down slide. These rules are only some of the pool rules. For a complete list contact me.

KidStuff Resale

The resale and elections have already passed with mixed results. While the resale was once again wonderfully successful, our chapter still has entirely too many positions without a volunteer two month after elections were held. Our activities and our resale can continue only with everyone pitching in to help.

As Resale Coordinator, I am writing a letter of plea to let everyone know how important Mothers & More is and how the resale ties into it. Without main positions filled: main positions being Co-leader, Financial Director, Membership Director, and the Newsletter Editor, the resale cannot continue to support our chapter, National and the community in the way we have been able to do in the past.

I am hoping that many of you will realize that the need is significant for the open positions to get filled now and that volunteering is easy and fun!

Statistics from the past 3 resales show the number of members who volunteer for the resale has increased. Yeah!! Thank you to those helping our chapter with the resale!! We need this trend to continue for our chapter as a whole.

Let me show you how the resale benefits of our resale:

- ◆ Sellers do not need to hold a garage sale. Benefits:
 - No strangers coming to your house.
 - You do not have to man your garage sale in rotten weather. Or in nice weather when you'd rather be doing something else.
 - No one offering you a quarter for something you have priced for fifty cents.
- ◆ More items sell because M&M does all the advertising and hundreds of shoppers arrive each sale.
- ◆ People tend to buy and spend more at a resale vs. garage sale.
- ◆ Knowing that you are helping the community in need by providing them quality clothes at fair prices. In addition, a portion of the proceeds goes to local food pantries.
- ◆ A portion of the proceeds goes directly to our local chapter to provide reduced-cost or FREE outings and programs for all of us and our families to enjoy.
- ◆ There are more quality items to purchase in one location.
- ◆ Able to learn more about Mothers & More and meet fun people.

The many benefits of being a member of our chapter include: having an email loop where we can seek advice, developing new skills and/or rediscovering a talent at programs and outings, having a support system of moms who have been there and have advice or others who are there right along with you and with whom you cry or celebrate, enjoying making new friends at our outings, having other children your children can learn to play with and socialize with, and simply prioritizing yourself every now and then.

While reading the most recent Mothers & More newsletter National sent to all members via email on October 13, I read with interest Connie Crawford's article, "The Secret to Chapter Long-term Success." In it, she stresses that the first thing you can do is to help your chapter thrive is to "VOLUNTEER! Every chapter has a need for short term and long term positions". Our chapter is no different than others in this respect. You have the power to make us different! Wouldn't it be great if we had more volunteers than we had positions? Let's do it!!!

So I urge you to think of how much time you can volunteer to our Mothers & More chapter each month. It doesn't have to be much but we do need more members to take the initiative to volunteer. Contact our co-leader, Jackie Di Cecco, at jjdicecc@gmail.com or 815-356-1608 to discuss what you can do to help.

Thank you so much for your time reading this and your continued support for our resale and chapter!

Cory
Resale Coordinator
Children Events Director
Family Events Coordinator



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the focus is the newsletter of the McHenry County Chapter of Mother's & More, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of mothers through support, education and advocacy. We address mothers' needs as individuals and members of society, and promote the value of all the work mothers do.

Voicemail: 815.334.7813
Website: www.mchenrymothers.org

To learn more about the Mothers & More organization or to join one of the many member loops, go to:
www.mothersandmore.org.

To enter the members only site you will need your member I.D. and password. You receive your I.D. and password every month in an email from National right before the The Forum is emailed to you. You can also request this information by sending an email to info@mothersandmore.org.

Get into the Loop!

A private email up for members only!
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mchenry-mothers/>

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