

November 2018 Newsletter

Friendship Force of

Sun 11/18/2018 10:31 PM

To: Marcia Ellis <marcia.ellis@wmich.edu>;



friendship force
WESTERN MICHIGAN

November 2018 Newsletter



Don't forget to mark your calendar for our

Christmas party on Thursday, December 6, at 6pm at Four Roses in Plainwell!!!

To FFWM members:

Some of the people who have previously served as host coordinators for our in-bound journeys got together and wrote a wish list for our members. Please read this list carefully, as it will help us all to be informed members of our club.

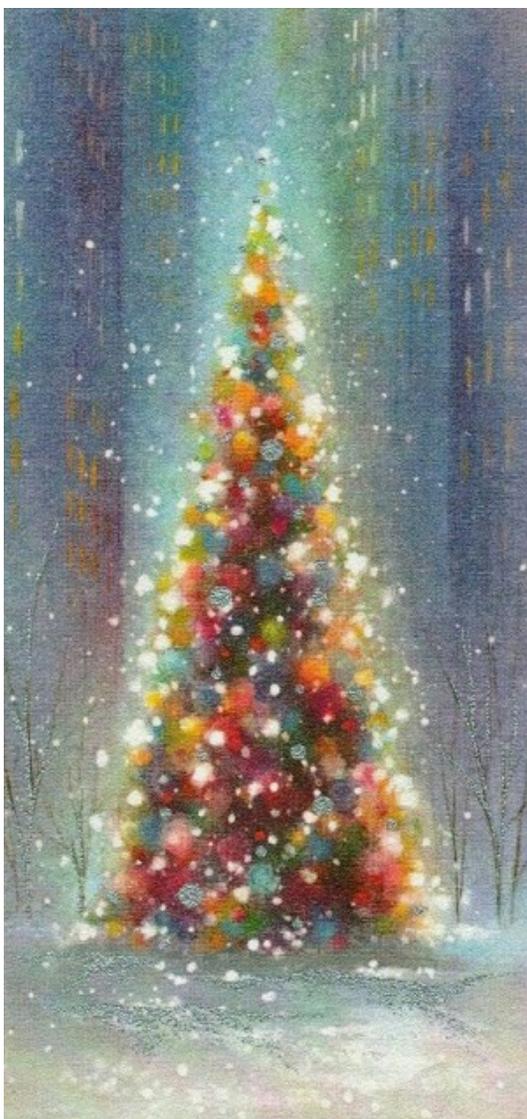
The responsibility of being a Host Coordinator (HC) is both interesting and challenging! As I served in that role for Omaha, I (Shirley Wiersma) realized that there were some things that I have done in the past that probably made the HC's role more difficult. So, I talked with several of the most recent HCs and we agreed that it might be helpful to point the following things out to club members to increase awareness of the impact their decisions have on the responsibilities of the HC.

Suggestions for FF members:

1. PLEASE read the emails which are sent to you. When you receive the itinerary, please make a copy of it. If you aren't able to do that, ask for a hard copy to be sent to you. Calls to the HC to know where, when, and what things are happening when that information is included in the emails (probably multiple times) simply adds more work to a challenging responsibility. (especially if this is a first time as an HC).
2. When you get the first copy of the itinerary, please read it carefully. If there are activities you would like to see added to the itinerary, NOW is the time to contact the HC. Suggestions at this time may be helpful (especially if you are willing to do the planning), but it is difficult (almost impossible) when the itinerary has been finalized.
3. If you want to plan other activities with your guests, please plan them at times that do not conflict with group plans. It can be discouraging to have plans that have been established to be usurped by other plans. Part of that difficulty also is when we have been given a group rate based on a certain number of people and we suddenly don't have that number any longer.
4. Please be prepared to pay for the event as it happens. Cash, or a check written to the treasurer, are usually the easiest ways to pay. Costs will have been included in the information sent to you, but be aware that there are sometimes variations to that exact amount.
5. When you approach the HC with information that you believe would be helpful, please assume that he or she has done some serious thinking and planning for

- the event, doing all that is possible to plan for the unexpected. Your presentation can either say, "I'm thinking that you know...." or it can say, "I'm thinking that you are pretty stupid or you wouldn't have gone with this plan."
6. When a tour is being given, it is respectful to keep side talk to a minimum. Be sure to give any tour guide your attention and respect. Anything less does not speak well of Friendship Force.
 7. Each individual can make being the HC difficult or easy. Please do your part to make it easy by communicating, reading the emails, being on time, having your payment ready, etc. That makes it more enjoyable for everyone!

What's up next?



2019

June 23-30 FF of Hiroshima

August 13-19 Tokyo Language
journey

October 1-8 FF of Southwest
Florida

We will need all members to help
with hosting and dinner hosting.

Please mark your calendars!

For our out-bound journey we are
invited to attend the FFI meeting in
Boulder, Colorado July 23-27.

2020

Our club is going to Bursa, Turkey
with other possible add-ons.

FFWM Newsletter

<https://www.friendshipforcewmich.org/>

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