

August 2021 FFWM Newsletter

FFWM <FFwesternmichigan@gmail.com>

Mon 8/2/2021 9:59 AM

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



friendship force

WESTERN MICHIGAN

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

August 2021 FFWM Newsletter

A Note From Our President

My wife, Louise, tells me that my monthly message needs to be short and sweet, so, officially, my August message is simply this: **HONEY** In other words, but not too many words, we hope you... **H**eed **O**ur **N**eed to **E**ngage **Y**ou! Let's think about our skills and abilities and the few more hours per year we might dedicate to FFWM. For example . . .

Come on Board!

Like every successful organization, FFWM needs active leadership. Leadership can be displayed in many ways... it can come in the form of asking for help and, sometimes, in answering that call. Due to term limits on our Board, FFWM will need to name some new leaders at the

end of this year. I am asking each of you to consider a term on the board. You can go to the following link and read about what board participation entails. Scroll to the bottom of the page. [FFWM Board Members](#)

Join a Committee!

- Social Committee
- Communications Committee
- Membership Committee (activities on hold since pandemic)

You can learn more about the job descriptions and responsibilities of our board and committees by reviewing our [Policies and Procedures Manual](#). (You will need the password if you've never been to this page before.) You can also read the minutes of our board meetings, which are posted on our website. If you need a password, call a board member.

I, or any other member of our board, would be happy to talk with you about board and committee membership. Seek us out at the next LEO, or just give us a call. Think about it.

The best way to enjoy your experience with any organization is “to get engaged” and the best way to ensure our successful future as a club is “to get you engaged”. Yes, there is some work involved here, but I can say with certainty that we spend a good portion of our meetings laughing and enjoying our time together. So, come on board HONEY! Our board nomination and election process will occur this fall.

Change in Venue for August LEO



LEO

August 6 at 6pm

Stanz Cafe in Grand Haven,

1118 Washington Avenue,

Grand Haven, MI 49417

<https://www.stanz.cafe/>

RSVP to Lyn Hargreave

SAVE THE DATE!!!



We are celebrating the 30th anniversary of our club!

You can refer to the [February and March FFWM Newsletters](#) to read about the history of our club.

On **September 24** we will have a special evening of middle eastern food and a special program, "An Immigrant Experience".

Do you know your family background story of how they came to the USA?

Please **mark your calendar** and plan to join in the celebration!

Lyn Hargreave is taking all suggestions for restaurants for our LEOs. If you have a favorite restaurant or one you've never been to but would like to try, please send her an email or give her a call. (lynhargreave@gmail.com).

Save Another Date!! How About a Lake Escape?

Marci and Roy have graciously invited our club to escape for a relaxing afternoon at their lake home! (455 Austin Blvd, Decatur)

Saturday, August 21

Please plan on arriving at their home by **2:30 pm**. We can enjoy some yard games, pontoon riding, kayaking and swimming. Bring your own snacks and drinks and water toys.

For those that enjoy a brew and burger, please join club members earlier, at **12 noon**, at Final Gravity Brewing Company (103 N. Phelps Street, Decatur).

We can head over to Marci and Roy's from the pub.

Upcoming journey. . . "Friendship and Art"

Pam Sackett and Marcia Ellis are journey coordinators for our inbound

journey, "Friendship and Art". FFWM will be hosting up to 12 guests from our neighboring clubs. We would like the opportunity to get better acquainted with Friendship Force members right in our own backyard!

We will travel to Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park and Grand Rapids Art Prize (an art competition), visit Kalamazoo Institute of Art and celebrate the 30th anniversary of our club with a party.

We have an aggressive agenda planned so we will need good walking shoes and lots of energy!

Guests will arrive at host homes by 4 PM on Wednesday, September 22. Departure is the morning of Saturday, September 25.

Completed vaccinations are required for all hosts and guests. We will need all our club members to be involved! **Please notify Marcia at ellism@wmich.edu if you can host our guests (overnight), provide a dinner on September 22 (dinner host) or spend the day with our guests (day host).**

Other Journeys In The Works

Our outbound journey to visit **FF of Bursa, Turkey and FF of Izmir, Turkey** are still on hold as our Turkish friends are not yet ready to receive guests.

Our outbound journey to visit **FF of Novgorod, Russia and FF of Tblisi, Georgia** is also on hold due to the pandemic.

2022 Inbound journey from **FF of Kern County, California** will most likely occur in summer of 2022.

Have you registered with FFI Online yet?

FFI Online is now live. It will *eventually* house all our member resources and exclusive member-only content, and keep you up to speed with news from FFI and around the world. *Eventually* the

member portal will be used to sign up for journeys, pay any fees etc. The minimum information required to sign up is your name, club and email address. **Be sure to sign up** if you have not already done so! [Here is the website sign-up page.](#)

Board Nominations

Please consider Board service!
Send all nominations for board members to
Jerrypotratz@hotmail.com.

[facebook.com]



FFWM Newsletter

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

This email was sent to ellism@wmich.edu

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
Friendship Force of Western Michigan · 302 Sabin · Kalamazoo, MI 49006 · USA

