

2023 FFWM August Newsletter

FFWM

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

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friendship force

WESTERN MICHIGAN

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

Presidents' Message

Greetings from Germany! Actually, I should be on my way back by the time you read this. I'm on a Global Journey which is organized by one or more clubs usually with a theme. Music and Art in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany is the one Lisa and I signed up for. We have enjoyed several concerts in different venues including an Irish violist, Daniel Hope. We also went to several art museums and we were even given an art lesson.

Other Global journeys I have done are birdwatching in California and enjoying beaches in Brazil as well as trekking and cruising the Amazon. If this sounds interesting, you will need to fill out an application to be accepted. Check the Journey catalog which is always listed at the end of our newsletter to see what is available. These

journeys are well worth meeting people with a like interest.
Nancy Draayer

Journeys

Goodbye to FF Greater Orlando!

July 23-30

Thanks to Journey Coordinators Pam Sackett and Mary Giddings. It was a wonderful week! Many thanks to all our dinner and day hosts! Everyone enjoyed a wonderful week!



Friendship Force of Metropole Ruhr (Germany) and Friendship Force of Limburg (Belgium) hosted our club!

June 26 to July 9

Journey Coordinators were Louise and Jerry Potratz.

Seven FFWM members traveled on this journey and had a lot of fun!



This is not a touched up photo folks! Limburg province is positioning itself as a biking paradise.... and we would agree. This is a bike path through the waters. A cement path cutting through a lake. Be wary of the residents!



Our hosts dressed in red, white, and blue in honor of our 4th of July outside of the Sint-Truiden city hall on our first full day of our journey. How wonderful!

2024 Assigned Journeys:

Domestic outbound to Western North Carolina tentatively in April

International outbound to Wairarapa, New Zealand and Newcastle, Australia

Looking for Journey Coordinators. If you are at all interested, please email Marcia Ellis at ellism@wmich.edu. It is a great way to get

involved and learn to plan a journey!

LEO

Next LEO:

August 6 at 6 pm meet at Namsen Korean BBQ in Kalamazoo at 1844 S. Westnedge for a meal with friends!

RSVP to Lyn Hargreave at lynhargreave@gmail.com

Last month on July 6th at 6 pm 21 FFWM members enjoyed a very messy boiled seafood dinner at the Tangy Crab! It was a fun and unusual dinner!





Picnic, Kayaking and Games!

A Picnic, Kayaking and Games!

Eleven members and three guests (two from Iraq) enjoyed a picnic, kayaking and games in Allegan at Littlejohn Lake Park.





Get To Know Our Members



My husband Jeff and I are life-long residents of Michigan and love sharing some of the things we think are special about our State. I grew up in Niles, Michigan and moved to Kalamazoo to attend Western Michigan University to get my B.A. I am now retired, but had careers in both graphic design and photography. I keep active by hiking, biking, gardening and dancing, but I also enjoy curling up with a good

book. I have been with Friendship Force for about four years and I have enjoyed meeting other ambassadors and learning about their lives and where they came from and hope they love Michigan as much as I do.

Susan Andress

Contribute to the Newsletter

Would you like to contribute something or share a travel experience in this newsletter? If you are willing to share your adventures, a photo, or anything related to travel, cultures, places you've visited, please email your article to Marcia Ellis at ellism@wmich.edu.

My FFI

The members-only portal, my.friendshipforce.org, is the go-to place for news, journey opportunities, payments, virtual experiences and all other member-relevant information. If you have not yet signed up, click [Word](#) or [PDF](#) for detailed instructions.

Travel Opportunities

Click the link below to review a catalog of Special Journeys that are currently being offered by other FFI clubs. Perhaps there is a journey that interests you!

[2023 Journey Catalog](#)

[2023 Club to Club Journeys](#)

FFWM Newsletter

Contact us: FFwesternmichigan@gmail.com

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