

2022 February FFWM Newsletter

FFWM <FFwesternmichigan@gmail.com>

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



A Message from the President

Well, for those of us that have not fled to the warmer climates, we are well into a cold and snowy Michigan winter. I love the four seasons, so I am “all in” on whatever Mother Nature wants to throw at us! I just hope she does so with occasional moderation!

For being the shortest month on the calendar, February can get long.

We have a LEO scheduled for noon on February 12th (see details below), which will help us break up the month with some nice camaraderie. And, if you want to stimulate your mind and grow your knowledge of international issues, I encourage you to consider participation in the Great Decisions Global Discussions series sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan (see details below). I consider the World Affairs Council to have a similar mission as FFI. Their tag line of “To Change the World, First Know the World” requires one to get to know people and increase one’s understanding of other cultures and ways of life... not too different from FFI’s “A World of Friends is a World of Peace”. Both

organizations are moving in the right direction... our approach is more personal... their approach is more intellectual. A little intellect won't hurt me!

We had a delicious and enjoyable LEO on January 12th and a challenging and fun night of Trivia on January 26th (see details below for both events). Thank you to all who participated in these two activities! I encourage everyone to join in whenever these opportunities occur! Come on, people! Let's get together! See you at the LEO on February 12th!

LEO at Sheshko in Grand Rapids

On January 12th 9 FFWM members met for lunch at Sheshco Mediterranean Grill in Grand Rapids. "Food was fantastic!" per Stan Sackett!



Next LEO

Our next LEO will be February 12, Saturday at noon at Casa Real,

Mexican. 232 W. Allegan ST., Otsego. RSVP to Shirley Weirsma at shirley_wiersma@yahoo.com. Please join your fellow club members!

Trivia Night



We had a fun night of Trivia on January 26th. A total of 22 participants, from our club and friends from FF of Southwest Florida, tried their hands at a fun and somewhat challenging game. A good time was had by all. At the beginning of the evening, we formed five teams and the appropriately self-named Grey Wizards won. The Grey Wizards got 16 out of 25 questions correct. The Grey Wizards team was comprised of Melanie Perry, from FFWM, and Richard and Joanne Collins and Maureen Butt, from SW Florida. Congratulations to the Grey Wizards!

World Affairs Council of Western Michigan

worldmichigan.org

As FFWM members, we are a globally curious bunch. Our friends at the World

Affairs Council of Western Michigan (in Grand Rapids) have announced their **2022 Great Decisions Global Discussions** schedule. They have assembled a series that looks fascinating and promises to be very informative:

February 7: The War on Drugs and Its Impact on the Environment

February 14: Myanmar and Human Rights

February 24: Global Cooperation in Space: The Case of Mining and the Role of Law

February 28: Russia and the U.S.

March 7: People in Transition: Examining Global Demographic Changes

March 14: India and the Quad Alliance

March 21: Creating a Just Transition in Climate Change Policy

March 28: Biden's Foreign Policy Agenda: How it Started and Where It's Going

Individual programs are \$10, however you can purchase a series pass to participate in all of these programs for \$60. You can access the following link for more information: [Great Decisions 2022/World Affairs Council of Western Michigan](#).

FFWM's Cathy Dopp is quite active in tyhe World Affairs Council. If you want to know more about the organization and what they do, just get in touch with Cathy.

Travels



Lyn Hargreave recommends visiting the Lume at Newfields in Indianapolis for the Van Gogh immersion experience.

"This is a different experience than that of the exhibits in Chicago or Detroit. The projection on the floors as well as the walls all around you, and the music made it a very unique experience.

Indianapolis is about a 4 hour drive from Kalamazoo. Tickets are

available a month in advance and cost \$25. Masks are required but there was plenty of room and we had no problem staying a safe distance from others."

Check the website for more info: <https://discovernewfields.org/lume>.

Happy Valentines Day!



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

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