



friendship force
WESTERN MICHIGAN

Hi everyone!

Welcome to the new year! Hope it holds a lot of good memory-making moments for us all! This year I would like to get more people involved in our club activities. If the board does all the work, serving on the board will become too taxing. If we spread things around and everyone pitches in to do their share, the work load is much lighter! Please consider volunteering! Just a few things to keep everyone up to date on our activities. . .



1. **Feb 1-8** is our outbound to FF of Southwest Florida. Bring a jacket for evenings!



2. **April 20-22** is the regional meeting in Cincinnati. The hotel: **RADISSON HOTEL CINCINNATI RIVERFRONT**, 668 W. 5th Street, Covington, KY 41011. Call the hotel directly for conference rates (\$151/night). (859) 491-1200
I encourage all of you to attend this meeting. I went with Fred & Mary 2 years ago to the Quad City meeting and really learned so much about FF! If you want to car pool, just email me. It is about 5 hours to drive there. If you don't plan ahead, something else will get onto your calendar, so please, make your reservation NOW and mark your calendars!!

Welcome

3. **June 19-26** FF of Baton Rouge will be visiting us. Host Coordinator is Barb Grinwis. You will soon be receiving emails from her looking for hosts. PLEASE, get involved in this journey! It is fun to host because you get to meet people from somewhere else! You do not need to attend all the activities when hosting. That is how a day host participates.



4. **Aug sometime between Aug 7 and 28** is our international outbound journey to Medicine Hat, Canada. We are hoping to put together an additional week touring Calgary, Banff and Lake Louise. Keep your calendars open for this one!

Welcome

5. **Sept 18-25** FF of Omaha will be visiting us during Art Prize
6. Our next **board meeting** is January 16 at 7pm. They are usually on the third Tuesday of the month. If you would like to participate email me with your Skype address.
7. Club service is essential from all members-- not every year, but we all need to take our turns!
Here is your opportunity! We are looking for volunteers for the following:
 - a. Social Committee chair (one in GR and one in Kalamazoo)
 - b. Newsletter writer
 - c. Host Coordinator for Omaha visit

You do **not** need to be on the board to serve in any of these positions. We are asking for a one year commitment that will take a few hours a month.

That is our schedule for the upcoming year. Again, please MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Send me an email (ellism@wmich.edu) or call (269 760 2582) if you can serve in any of the above positions. I am waiting for you. . . .!