

MARCH/APRIL 2019

# Connections

Exploring the world with the FSB Connect Club

Fabulous France

## La Belle Seine Cruise



October 29 - November 6, 2019

See inside for details

# REFLECTIONS



**Hello Connect Club Friends!**

**Spring is in the air!**

One of the great things about living in Iowa is the four (or five!) seasons. I love them all, but I always look forward to having the worst of winter weather behind me with the signs of Spring finally arriving. This season is time for transition and rebirth, a time to shed your winter layers, and a time for the earth to come to life again. Spring always uplifts my spirits, changes my attitude and puts me in the mood to start planning new trips, getting back outdoors, and enjoying what each new day has to offer.

My goal for this year is to plan memorable journeys led by expert and knowledgeable guides, where nothing is left to chance. My biggest challenge is deciding how to keep a diverse group of members with a wide range of interests happy and engaged. So this year I have put together a lineup of some pretty amazing tours that I am sure everyone will enjoy!

Take some time to view this issue of the Connections newsletter while dreaming about all the events, tours and activities you would like to experience with the Connect Club!

Let's connect! Please call me or stop by with any questions you may have or to sign up for one of the many upcoming events in the newsletter.

**I look forward to seeing you soon!**

Kathy Leeseckamp - Connect Club Director • 319-294-2900

**Let's**

**Explore the World Together!**

# COOKING WITH THE CONNECT CLUB

## Roasted Cauliflower & Red Pepper Soup



### Ingredients

- 2 med sweet red peppers, halved and seeded
- 1 lg head cauliflower, broken into florets (about 7 cups)
- 4 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 1 cup chopped sweet onion
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2-1/2 teaspoons minced fresh rosemary or  
3/4 teaspoon dried rosemary, crushed
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 4 cups chicken stock
- 1 cup 2% milk
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/8 to 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- Shredded Parmesan cheese, optional

### Instructions

1. Preheat broiler. Place peppers on a foil-lined baking sheet, skin side up. Broil 4 in. from heat until skins are blistered, about 5 minutes. Transfer to a bowl; let stand, covered, 20 minutes. Change oven setting to bake; preheat oven to 400°.
2. Toss cauliflower with 2 tablespoons oil; spread in a 15x10x1-in. pan. Roast until tender, 25-30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Remove skin and seeds from peppers; chop peppers.
3. In a 6-qt. stockpot, heat remaining oil over medium heat. Add onion; cook until golden and softened, 6-8 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add garlic, rosemary and paprika; cook and stir 1 minute. Stir in flour until blended; cook and stir 1 minute. Gradually stir in stock. Bring to a boil, stirring constantly; cook and stir until thickened.
4. Stir in cauliflower and peppers. Puree soup using an immersion blender. Or, cool slightly and puree soup in batches in a blender; return to pot. Stir in milk and remaining seasonings; heat through. If desired, serve with cheese.

**Freeze option:** Freeze cooled soup in freezer containers. To use, partially thaw in refrigerator overnight. Heat through in a saucepan, stirring occasionally and adding a little stock or milk if necessary.



# Ballard's Resort Fishing Trip with Gene Neighbor

*Minnesota's Lake of the Woods*

Sunday, June 30th to Wednesday, July 3, 2019

Special Rate of \$815.00 per person

After March 31, 2019 the special rate ends and the rate increases to \$915.00 per person.

***Join Gene and Jean on this exciting summer fishing trip!***

- **Sunday, June 30:** Depart from Marion at 6:00 am, arrive at Ballard's Resort 4:00 pm, where you will check in, receive your lodging assignment and attend a briefing orientation. A complimentary welcome reception and evening dinner are included.
- **Monday, July 1:** Breakfast at 7:00 am, guided walleye fishing (8-5), lunch on the lake, evening meal, lodging in Cabin.
- **Tuesday, July 2:** Breakfast 7:00 am, guided walleye fishing. (8-5), lunch on the lake, evening meal, lodging in Cabin.
- **Wednesday, July 3:** 6:00 am breakfast, depart lodge at 7:00 am, and arrive in Marion at 5:00 pm.

## **Additional Information**

- **Lodging in Cabins:** Each unit is complete with living room, two single beds per bedroom, bathroom, TV, towels, bedding, & daily maid service.
- **Guided Walleye Fishing:** 27 ft. Sport crafts (guide boats), include angling equipment, bait, tackle, on-board restroom facilities, & fish processing. The boats accommodate up to six anglers, plus Coast Guard licensed guide.
- **Meals:** Piping hot breakfasts, sack or shore lunches prepared for you daily and home-style evening meals.
- **MN fishing license:** Purchase online at [www.licenses.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.licenses.dnr.state.mn.us), or at Ballard's (cost is \$37.00).
- **Pricing includes:** Round trip coach transportation from Marion, three nights lodging, two days guided walleye fishing, all meals, rods, reels, bait, tackle, fish processing, gratuities, sales and lodging tax.

**A deposit of \$200 per person and your completed reservation form is due by March 31, 2019.  
Final payment is due June 14, 2019.**

**Deadline date to sign up for this exciting tour is March 15, 2019. After this date you will be waitlisted.**

# *Spectacular Canyon Country*

**June 23 - 30, 2019**

*\$2,988 per person double occupancy and  
\$3,590 per person single occupancy*

***Don't miss this amazing trip!***

We will start this tour by visiting the Phoenix Desert Botanical Garden in Scottsdale, and then drive through America's most beautiful western town, where we will take off on a thrilling jeep tour of Sedona. Then it's time to relax and enjoy a Sundown Cookout on the patio with views of the gorgeous red rocks at sunset! We will explore Jerome, Arizona and take a four-hour scenic train ride aboard the Verde Canyon Railroad to see the expansive views and remote wilderness of Verde Canyon. We move on to Oak Creek Canyon located on the south rim of the Grand Canyon, one of the Seven Natural Wonders of the World.

As we travel eastward, we will stop at Glen Canyon National Recreation area (Lake Powell) and take a boat cruise on the lake to see the sandstone formations. We will enjoy the Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park where we will have the opportunity to venture into the sea of sand. If you are daring, you can try out some Sand Boarding!

Next, we are on to Bryce Canyon National Park where you will be awestruck by the indescribable beauty of the eroded limestone towers called the hoodoos. We will then visit the Little Hollywood Museum in Kanab and have some fun putting the sets and props to use for our own western movie before sitting down to a delicious Chuckwagon Cookout! Our last day will take us to Zion National Park to see the rust-colored sandstone cliffs and a forest of Cottonwood trees that line the Virgin River through the canyon. Our narrated tram ride will give us a gorgeous overview of the park. Our travels will end with a guided city tour of Las Vegas!

Pricing includes: Round trip air from O'hare Int'l Airport, air taxes and fees/surcharges, hotel, transfers, gratuities for included services, baggage handling and Travel Protection.

A deposit of \$100.00 per person and your completed reservation form is required to reserve your space. Final payment will be due on March 15, 2019.

***Stop by my office or call me at 319-294-2900 to sign up for this spectacular tour!***

October 29 - November 6, 2019

# La Belle Seine Cruise

*\* Deadline to sign up for this extraordinary tour is May 8, 2019. After this date you will be waitlisted.*

**Pricing ranges from \$5,114 to \$8,414 based on the cabin you choose.**

## ***This is La Belle Seine – a journey as elegant as France itself!***

Onboard a river cruise, the culture, art, history, and romance of France will sweep you away. Our journey starts in the Normandy region in Paris, where we'll board an incredible ship for a rejuvenating 7-night river cruise. We will sail to Conflans and visit Auvers-sur-Oise, once home to several 19th-century painters including Cézanne and Van Gogh. Cruise past the idyllic French countryside and dock in Rouen, Normandy's historic capital where we'll see the Gros Horloge astronomical clock. On to Le Havre on the English Channel where we will explore Honfleur, the remarkable maritime city. Sail on to Les Andelys and Château Gaillard, which was constructed by Richard the Lionheart in the 12th century. Continue to the gardens of Giverny, muse to Impressionist painters including Claude Monet. Our final journey will take us back to Paris, the "City of Lights."

A full day of remembrance awaits, as we travel through Normandy to visit some of the significant D-Day Landing sites of World War II. Begin at Pointe du Hoc, a strategic German battery that defended Utah and Omaha beaches from the Allied invasion, where craters from cataclysmic bombings occupy the landscape to this day. We will view Omaha Beach, one of the U.S. landing zones of the invasion of Normandy and visit the Normandy American Cemetery and visitor's center. We will travel on to Arromanche-les-Bains to view the Mulberry Harbor, one of the greatest engineering feats of WWII and a massive coup for the Allies.

## **SPECIAL TRAVEL PRESENTATION:** Monday, April 8, 2019 at 2:00 PM at Elmcrest

Pricing includes: Round trip air from O'hare Int'l airport, air taxes and fees/surcharges, coach transfer from Marion to Chicago, hotel, transfers, gratuities, baggage handling and Travel Protection (valued at \$385 pp).

A deposit of \$1,135 pp (includes \$750 deposit and \$385 insurance) and your completed reservation form is required to reserve your space. Final payment will be due on July 1, 2019.

***Stop by or call me at 319-294-2900 to learn more about this extraordinary tour.***



# HAWAII

**February 13-22, 2020**

## **SPECIAL TRAVEL PRESENTATION:** Monday, April 8, 2019 at 3:00 PM at Elmcrest

*\* Deadline to sign up for this breathtaking tour is August 6, 2019. After this date you will be waitlisted.*

▪ **Pricing: \$5,919 pp Double & \$7,919 pp Single | Travel Protection: \$275.00 pp** ▪

### ***You will not want to miss out on this spectacular tour of beautiful Hawaii!***

Let the spirit of "Aloha" be your guide on this leisurely three-island tour of Hawaii featuring three-night stays each in Oahu, Kauai and Maui. We will enjoy our luxurious beach front hotel in Waikiki, "Remember Pearl Harbor" and visit the USS Arizona Memorial. We will embark on a wonderful journey along Oahu's famous North Shore. Relax and take in the natural beauty during a cruise along Wailua River. Admire the hula dance, an ancient Polynesian art form. Visit the largest Hawaiian coffee estate in Kauai and learn about the coffee bean's journey from tree to cup. We will see Waimea Canyon, the "Grand Canyon of the Pacific." In Maui we will visit the old royal capital of Lahaina, once home of the world's largest whaling fleets, where we can stroll through historic streets. Capping off our adventure through paradise, we will experience a traditional Polynesian luau!

Pricing includes: Round trip air from O'Hare Int'l airport, air taxes and fees/surcharges, coach transfer from Marion to Chicago, hotel, transfers, gratuities and baggage handling.

A deposit of \$500 pp plus \$275 insurance and your completed reservation form is required to reserve your space. Final payment will be due on December 15, 2019.

Offer: Optional 3 Days 2-Night Big Island Post Tour Extension

Rate: \$949.00 USD per person, double, land & air inclusive

***Stop by or call me at 319-294-2900 to learn more about this breathtaking tour.***



**NO PASSPORT REQUIRED...**

# An Ethnic & Culinary Journey

**September 23-26, 2019**

FINAL DETAILS AND PRICING CAN BE FOUND IN THE UPCOMING MAY/JUNE ISSUE OR BY CONTACTING ME DIRECTLY AFTER MARCH 1, 2019.

Deadline date to sign up for this tour is June 17, 2019. After this date you will be waitlisted.

**In Omaha, we will travel the world in four days without a passport while experiencing the culture, food and entertainment of 10 different countries!**

We begin our journey exploring the historic Old Market Neighborhood before heading to Mexico for dinner and a folkloric performance. We will visit France to enjoy a French lunch presentation by Chef Cedric Fichpain. We will then travel to Ireland to visit Father Flanagan's Boys Town, and in the evening we will enjoy an Irish dinner cruise while listening to the folk music of an Irish singer. Our next stop will be the Czech Republic where we will watch a kolach-making demonstration and visit the Slovak museum. We cannot make a trip to Omaha without going to the Henry Doorly Zoo. It is home to the world's largest indoor rainforest and desert under a geodesic dome. Then it is on to India where we will see the elaborate and striking Hindu Temple. Later we will visit Spain and explore their beautiful St. Cecilia Spanish Cathedral and, for dinner, we will head to Greece to have dinner and learn about the Greek culture and dancing. Next we will visit Lithuania where we will enjoy tortes and coffee and hear about the Machevicius family and how they escaped Germany in WWII. We will journey to Scotland to visit Joslyn Castle. Before our journey homeward, we will travel to Poland to enjoy a Polish prepared meal while watching a dance performance.

This tour will be filled with great memories and wonderful food from 10 wonderful countries we will have visited without a passport!

Pricing includes: Transportation by deluxe motor coach, three nights deluxe hotel accommodations, baggage handling, all activities listed on itinerary, Travel Protection Plan, Cruises and Tours Worldwide Tour Director.

A deposit of \$100.00 per person and your completed reservation form is required to reserve your space. Final payment will be due on June 17, 2019.

**Stop by or call me at 319-294-2900 to learn more about this culinary journey.**



# Ladies Outing

*Friday, July 12, 2019*

FINAL DETAILS AND PRICING CAN BE FOUND IN THE UPCOMING MAY/JUNE ISSUE OR BY CONTACTING ME DIRECTLY AFTER MARCH 1, 2019.

Bring your creativity and join the Connect Club for a day of tours, hands-on activities and lots of fun and laughter!

We will spend the morning exploring a charming Historic City with amazing scenic overlooks, touring a Lockmaster's house and enjoying some wine tasting and tour a vineyard. The afternoon will be spent learning how to use the pottery wheel, making a project with mosaic tiles, and painting your own piece of pottery.

Our day will be spent relaxing, eating, drinking, laughing, building memorable experiences and bonding with our friends in the Connect Club.

To reserve your spot, return the completed reservation form along with your payment to me by Friday, June 7, 2019. A full refund will be given for cancellations made prior to this date.

***Please contact Kathy Leesekamp at 319-294-2900 to sign up for this Ladies tour!***

# Shhhh... IT'S A SECRET

## FIVE-DAY MYSTERY TOUR

August 5-9, 2019

***Mystery tours are like a box of chocolates -  
you never know what you're going to get!***



But I can tell you - no matter where this mystery tour takes us, fun will be with us every step of the way!

Are you looking for an amazing and unforgettable travel getaway? Are you wanting to experience something new and different? Have you ever wondered how things are made? Then this is your chance to find out the answers and experience the joy and excitement of seeing where things come from!

Join the Connect Club as we travel out-of-state to experience unique attractions filled with wonders and surprises around every turn. This tour offers unforgettable and unique hands-on experiences with people who have an extraordinary craftsmanship and knowledge of their field.

Not only is the tour a secret, but so is the price! Pricing for Double and Single occupancy will be finalized at the end of March 2019 and will be added to the May/June newsletter or you can call me directly to request pricing after April 1st.

This tour will be casual dress. There will be some walking but not an excessive amount or for long distances.

Pricing includes: Deluxe motor coach transportation, hotel accommodation for four nights, luggage handling, and admission to many fun-filled mysterious places, gratuities, travel protection, and professional tour manager from Cedar Valley.

To reserve your spot, please submit a deposit of \$250.00 per person along with your completed reservation form. Final payment is due June 21, 2019.

***Please contact Kathy Leeseckamp at 319-294-2900 to sign up for this fun road trip!***



**\$100.00 per person**

# ONE DAY MYSTERY TOUR

*Destination Unknown*

◀ **June 6th or June 7th, 2019** ▶  
(you choose)

Are you looking for something fun to do this summer? Then I suggest you join the FSB Connect Club on a secret adventure that will leave you feeling nostalgic for the good ole days.

Leave behind the stress of today's world as we experience fascinating tours, enjoy a home-cooked meal, take in the country charm and old fashioned hospitality of an earlier age.

This tour will be of interest to both men and women, will be casual dress and will have some walking but not an excessive amount or for long distances.

If you would like to get in on the fun and reserve your spot, return the completed reservation form along with your payment of \$100.00 by Monday, May 1st, 2019. A full refund will be given for cancellations made prior to this date.

***Please contact Kathy Leeseekamp at 319-294-2900 to sign up for this mystery tour!***



# A TASTE OF BROADWAY CIRCA'21 DINNER PLAYHOUSE

## Diamonds and Divas

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

*A Hilarious Brand New "Whodunit — And What The Heck Did They Do?!"*



Actors, thieves and egos run hilariously amok at the Cannes Film Festival in France — what could possibly go wrong? In a luxury hotel, the body of a beautiful film star lies on the floor. A hooded jewel thief breaks in and discovers her. A man bursts in and assumes the thief is the murderer. Another man enters and assumes a different story. The hotel manager arrives and attempts to make sense of all their stories. A huge film premiere is looming, a diamond necklace has gone missing, scandalous affairs are about to hit the headlines, and everyone appears to be trying to murder someone while blaming everyone else! Laugh along with the hijinks as the mystery is unraveled.

Circa '21 is proud to be the first professional theatre in the U.S. to produce this madcap comedy!

\$95.00 per person. Once payment is received, your name will go on the list.

Deadline date to sign up and deadline to cancel with a refund is March 18, 2019.

## Grumpy Old Men

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

*Fasten Your Seatbelts. It's Going To Be A Grumpy Old Ride!*



Don't miss this laugh-out-loud story of family, friendship, love and romance in a fresh new musical that's guaranteed to delight! Based on the 1993 movie starring Jack Lemmon, Walter Matthau and Ann-Margret, Grumpy Old Men is the story of two aging neighbors, Max and John, who have been feuding for more than 50 years. When the beautiful and charming Ariel moves in across the street, the rivalry is raised to new heights! Can her love and compassion reunite their friendship?

\$95.00 per person. Once payment is received, your name will go on the list.

Deadline date to sign up and deadline to cancel with a refund is May 6, 2019.

**Stop by my office or call me at 319-294-2900 to sign up for these exciting performances!**

# --- MOVIE DAY ---



1462 Twixt Town Rd, Marion

**Tuesday, March 19, 2019**

Join your Connect Club friends for your choice of five movies currently showing at the Collins Road Theatres. Enjoy all the free popcorn you can eat and all the pop or coffee you can drink! The concession stand is also open to purchase anything else you might like to have. At 9:15 we will have announcements, door prizes and a synopsis of the movies being shown that day with a chance to change theatres for the movie of your choice, and to get those refills before we start the show!

**Due to the staff needing time to set-up, the doors will not open until 8:30 AM.**

**No reservations are necessary!**

**Please remember our FREE events are for members only.**

**NEXT MOVIE DAY: Tuesday, May 21, 2019**

## SEMINAR

**Auto Education  
and Awareness**

**Friday, April 26, 2019 • Elmcrest Country Club • 2:00 PM**

**FSB is teaming up with Scott's Motors to share some valuable information with you about automobiles and safety.**

You will be provided information on maintaining your personal vehicle, including tires, oil, electrical issues, and required service maintenance. Learn when your vehicle needs immediate attention from a service center, and how to make better decisions about repairing your vehicle and controlling the cost. They will discuss getting your vehicle repaired in a safe and cost effective manner, avoiding upselling, and when alternative parts can be used on your vehicle. Purchasing a vehicle without overpaying, trading your old vehicle in without giving it away, seller and buyer protection and automobile insurance will also be discussed.

We all need a refresher on automobile maintenance and safety. Join FSB to learn more on this topic.

**Call Kathy at 319-294-2900 to reserve your spot by April 22, 2019.**





# CHANGE OF ADDRESS

## ADDRESS CHANGE UPDATES

If you are not receiving your Connections newsletter, if you would like to change your preference (Mail or Email), or if you have a “do not forward address” during the winter months, please contact me at 319-294-2900 to discuss.

# INCLEMENT WEATHER ANNOUNCEMENT



## EVENT CANCELLATIONS DUE TO WEATHER

If FSB needs to cancel a Movie Day, Seminar or Travel Show due to weather, we will advise the cancellation in the following places: FSB Connect Club Facebook page, FSB website page and the Collins Road Theatre website page. You can also contact FSB at 319-377-4891, Collins Road Theatres at 319-377-4555, Elmcrest Country Club at 319-366-8401 or my cell phone directly at 319-481-0241.



## ▪ 2019-2020 Sneak Peek ▪

### *Domestic and International Travel*

#### ▪ One Day Mystery Tour ▪

June 6 & 7, 2019 (Choose your date)

\* MORE DATES WILL BE ADDED IF NEEDED \*

#### ▪ SW Canyon Country ▪

June 23-30, 2019 (USA)

\* SPACE AVAILABLE - CONTACT ME WITH QUESTIONS! \*

#### ▪ Ballard's: 3 Nights, 2 Days Fishing ▪

June 30-July 3, 2019

#### ▪ Ladies Outing ▪

July 12, 2019

\* DETAILS & SIGN UP INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND IN THE UPCOMING MAY/JUNE ISSUE \*

#### ▪ 5-Day Mystery Tour ▪

August 5-9, 2019

\* YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS OUT ON THIS MYSTERY TOUR! \*

#### ▪ Foody Tour - An Ethnic & Culinary Journey - Omaha ▪

September 23-27, 2019

\* DETAILS CAN BE FOUND IN THE UPCOMING MAY/JUNE ISSUE \*

#### ▪ La Belle Seine Cruise (Paris to Normandy) ▪

October 29 - November 6, 2019

\* TRAVEL SHOW - APRIL 8, 2019 @ 2:00 PM \*

#### ▪ Rose Parade & New Year's Extravaganza ▪

December 29, 2019 - January 2, 2020

\* DETAILS CAN BE FOUND IN AN UPCOMING NEWSLETTER \*

#### ▪ Hawaii ▪

February 13 - 22, 2020

\* TRAVEL SHOW - APRIL 8, 2019 @ 3:00 PM \*

#### ▪ ▪ ▪ Coming Up ▪ ▪ ▪

Travel Show - Tuesday, October 15, 2019

\* FOR EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE ▪ OCTOBER 5-16, 2020 \*

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Kathy Leeseekamp  
Connect Club Director  
319-294-2900  
KathyLeeseekamp@fsbmail.net

SAVE THE DATE

**MARCH**

- 1st - Cookie Day
- Feb 28th-Mar 7th - Wonders of Alaska
- 14th - Israel Document Party (FSB @ 2 PM)
- 19th - Movie Day

**APRIL**

- 3rd - Cookie Day
- 3rd - Circa 21 (Diamonds & Divas)
- 8th - Travel Show - La Belle Seine (Elmcrest @ 2 PM)
- 8th - Travel Show - Hawaii (Elmcrest @ 3 PM)
- 10th-23rd - Israel
- 26th - Seminar - Auto Education/Awareness (Elmcrest @ 2 PM)

**MAY**

- 3rd - Cookie Day
- 21st - Movie Day
- 22nd - Circa 21 (Grumpy Old Men)

**JUNE**

- 3rd - Cookie Day
- 6th & 7th - One Day Mystery (choose your date)
- 18th - Seminar - The Views Grill & Chat & Elderly Scams (Views @ 2 PM)
- 23rd - 30th - Canyon Country
- June 30th - July 3rd - Ballard's Resort Fishing Trip

*Dates and events are subject to change. This announcement does not include all Connect Club events. Check your future newsletters for further updates.*

