omedions

Exploring the world with the FSB Connect Club

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE (PREFERABLY ALIVE) Wanted for rustling critters and other sordid crimes. CAUTION The kid has a bad attitude and smells a bit. See inside for details

DAY MYSTERY TOUR



Hello Connect Club Friends!

As I was looking back over 2021, I was thinking about how grateful I am to be a part of the FSB Connect Club.

My passion in life is spending time with family and experiencing the world. Passion is what motivates us to do the things we love and gives us a sense of purpose in life.

So much of what we do is transactional, but with my position I have the perfect blend of planning, communicating and building relationships. I have been given the opportunity to "connect" with and spend time with all of you, laughing and sharing stories about all our travels from movie days to faraway lands. I could not ask for a better life! I am truly grateful that we are able to explore and experience the world together!

What is your passion in life? Keep your passion for life burning, by doing what you love to do!

Wishing you and yours a wonderful 2022!

It's that time of year where we start filling up our calendars with activities, events and tours for the New Year. Be sure to check out the newsletter to see if I can help you fill your days with amazing Connect Club Tours!

Please call me with any questions you may have or to sign up for one of the many upcoming tours I have to offer.

Kathy Leesekamp - Connect Club Director 319-294-2900 KathyLeesekamp@fsbmail.com

Let's Explore the World Together!

Our 2021 Travels

Poland - August 2021







Railroads of Colorado & New Mexico - September 2021













Discover Britain & Ireland, featuring England, Scotland & Wales











2022 MOVIE DAYS

Mark Your Calendars!

Wednesday, January 26th
Wednesday, March 9th
Tuesday, May 17th
Wednesday, August 24th
Tuesday, October 4th
Wednesday, December 14th

We will have our choice of 4 first-run movies, with the most popular movie being held in two theaters.

And, of course, we can't have a **FREE MOVIE DAY** without **FREE POPCORN** (the best popcorn in town with real butter) along with pop or coffee! Free refills will still be available! The concession stand is always open to purchase anything else you might want.

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

At 9:15 we will have announcements and a synopsis of the movies being shown.

- Masks are not required.
- No reservations are necessary.
- Please remember our free events are for members only.



1462 Twixt Town Road, Marion



Beauty And The Beast

\$115

Wednesday, July 6, 2022



Step into the enchanted world of Broadway's modern classic, Disney's Beauty and the Beast, an international sensation that played a remarkable 13-year run on Broadway, was nominated for nine Tony Awards, including Best Musical, and has been produced in 37 countries worldwide.

The classic story tells of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped under the spell of an enchantress. If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out. If the Beast does not learn his lesson soon, he and his household will be doomed for all eternity.

Filled with amazing music, spectacular costumes and dazzling sets, this "tale as old as time" offers family theatre at its best.

We will depart from FSB (1380 Twixt Town Rd Marion) at 10:00 am, enjoy a delicious lunch, dessert & the fantastic production, and return home around 5:45 pm.



The Sound of Music April 7, 2022

\$160

Rodgers & Hammerstein's last Broadway show turned out to be their most enduring and popular of them all. Based on a true story set in Austria in 1938, THE SOUND OF MUSIC tells of a detour on Maria Rainier's journey to become a nun. Recognizing that Maria is not yet ready for religious life, Mother Abbess sends her to be the governess for the seven children of a widowed naval officer. Finding the household strictly run like one of his ships, Maria reintroduces music and warmth and quickly charms both the children and their father. Favorite songs

such as "Do Re Mi" and "Climb Every Mountain" fill this time-honored show that practically invented the term "family entertainment."

The Wizard of Oz August 25, 2022

\$160

We're off to see the Wizard! Over ten generations have grown up loving this classic tale of an enchanted land - first as a beloved children's book, then as an iconic Hollywood film. Now The Fireside is bringing you an exciting stage adaptation of this legendary musical. It's all there - good witches, wicked witches, munchkins, a cowardly lion in search of courage, a tin man in search of a heart, a scarecrow in search of a brain, and a young girl from Kansas in search of home. It's a show for the entire family filled with eye-popping costumes, ribtickling humor, breath-taking adventure, and an immortal musical

score including one of the greatest hit songs in musical history - "Over the Rainbow." So this summer, just follow the yellow brick road to The Fireside.

We will depart from FSB (1380 Twixt Town Rd Marion) at 6:30 am, make a stop at McDonalds for Breakfast, enjoy a delicious lunch, dessert & the spectacular production. On the way home we will make a rest stop at Culver's and return home around 8:30 pm.

What Cheer Flea Market



Friday, August 5, 2022

\$100.00

Do you dream of road tripping, searching for bargains, vintage goods, antiques and haggling for that perfect price? **Then this day tour was made for you!**

You're sure to find a hidden treasure at this Flea Market!

This indoor/outdoor market features 400 dealers from several states and is one of the premier antique and collectibles markets in the Midwest. This market offers a little bit of everything, including antiques & collectibles, tools, primitives, postcards, glassware, stamps, coins, jewelry, furniture, baseball cards, and more.

You will also find a big selection of food vendors so you can take a lunch break and then get back to shopping!

Includes: Motor Coach transportation, gratuities, parking fee, Flea Market ticket, breakfast and dinner!

Contact Kathy Leesekamp at 319-294-2900 if you are interested in this tour.



\$3,179 per person, double occupancy and \$3,779 per person single occupancy

On day one we start the day with a visit to Providence and the Gilded Age mansions of Newport. We'll spend time in the lively artist colony of Provincetown, experience the beautiful islands of Martha's Vineyard, Block Island, and Nantucket. We'll complete our local experience as we indulge in a traditional seafood and lobster feast, explore the local charms, walk along historic cobblestone streets, and feel like a true New Englander in a traditional cranberry bog.

Day two we will visit Providence, "America's Renaissance City." We'll take a tour of the prestigious Brown University and learn about the city's vibrant art, cultural, and culinary scenes. Then we head to Newport and travel along Bellevue Avenue. Lined with extraordinary 19th-century summer "cottages," this road is home to 7 mansions designated National Historic Landmarks. It's your choice! Explore Marble House, built by the Vanderbilts and modeled after the Petit Trianon at Versailles -OR- tour Rosecliff, the opulent former residence of silver heiress Theresa Fair Oelrichs, known for her lavish parties.

Day Three we will start our day off with a ferry ride to Block Island, a quaint isle smaller than 10-square miles and get a taste of the local flavors at a restaurant before touring the island. We'll visit a micro-yarn mill, learning about the process before we meet the animals. Ferry back to the mainland and enjoy an evening at leisure in Providence.

Day four we will delve into rural life as we tour a New England cranberry bog and learn about dry harvesting. Step back in time with a stop in the celebrated town of Plymouth where the Pilgrims landed in 1620, and see legendary Plymouth Rock. Later, we arrive at our beachfront hotel for a 4-night stay. We'll enjoy a traditional New England experience as we indulge in a seafood and lobster feast.

On Day five a ferry ride transports us to beautiful Martha's Vineyard. Known for visits by presidents and royalty, this summer home of many artists, writers and celebrities is full of surprises. We'll see all the highlights of "the Vineyard" (as the locals call it), including quaint gingerbread-styled cottages and a once-famous whaling port resplendent with sea captains' homes and widows' walks. Later, we depart the island and cruise back to Cape Cod.

Day six we travel to Provincetown, located on the tip of the Cape. This lively artist colony remains famous for its crafts and bright seagoing flair. Then, it's your choice! Set out on a whale watch cruise to Cape Cod Bay in search of these magnificent creatures -OR- enjoy a scenic adventure through the iconic sand dunes of the Cape.

On day seven catch a glimpse of the Camelot era in Hyannisport, home of the Kennedy compound, and visit the poignant Kennedy Memorial. Next, we set off via ferry to explore the idyllic island of Nantucket. From its cobblestone Main Street to its beaches and lighthouses, this place lives up to its reputation. During time at leisure, meander the waterfront where sailboats and yachts sway in the harbor or shop for a famous Nantucket basket. Tonight, we'll enjoy a farewell dinner and chef-led demonstration.

Pricing includes: Round trip air from Cedar Rapids, sightseeing, baggage handling, deluxe motor coach, 1st class hotel accommodations, gratuities and all air taxes/surcharges. A deposit of \$600 per person, plus insurance of \$299 and your completed reservation form are required to reserve your space. Final payment will be due by March 21, 2022.

4 Day Mystery Tour

June 7-10, 2022

\$800 Double per person and \$950 Single per person

Guess what?! I hired a professional to take over 2022's 4 Day Mystery Tour! This mystery tour will be wild and fun! It is packed with mystery, secrets, charm and exciting unknown places!



So get ready, pack your cowboy gear, put on your thinking cap and get ready to look for an outlaw!

Pricing includes: Deluxe motor coach, hotel accommodations for three nights, luggage handling, admissions to mystery attractions, all meals and gratuities. This tour will be casual dress. There will be some walking but not much.



The distinct cultures of Switzerland, Austria, and Bavaria await you!

Explore delightful Lucerne, "Swiss Paradise on the Lake," and enjoy a walking tour featuring the Alstadt (Old Town), Chapel Bridge, and Jesuit church. While in Innsbruck, enjoy a panoramic visit to this city's Olympic landmarks. In beautiful Salzburg, stroll through Mirabell Gardens and along the quaint Getreidegasse (site of Mozart's birthplace). Have dinner in Austria's oldest restaurant, St. Peter's. Fairy tales come to life with a picture stop at Bavaria's most famous castle, Neuschwanstein. Your amazing journey concludes in the charming village of Oberammergau. Here you'll witness a spectacular performance of the Oberammergau Passion Play, whose origins date back to 1634. Watch as the entire village comes together to present you with their rendition of this Biblical story.

Pricing includes: Round trip air from Cedar Rapids, sightseeing, baggage handling, deluxe motor coach, 1st class deluxe hotel accommodations, gratuities and all air taxes/fees/surcharges. A deposit in the amount of \$800 per person, a second deposit in the amount of \$1500 per person, insurance in the amount of \$500 per person along with your completed reservation form are required to reserve your spot on this tour. Reservations are now based upon availability. Final payment is due February 24, 2022.

* This tour is full, please call me at 319-294-2900 to be added to the waitlist! *



We are finally able to plan for another Ballard's Tour with Gene and Jeanie Neighbor!

Ballard's will have pricing to me January 2022! Make sure you call and have your name put on the "interested" list so I can mail the brochure and paperwork to you!

Day One: Depart from Marion at 6:00 am, arrive at Ballard's Resort at 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.

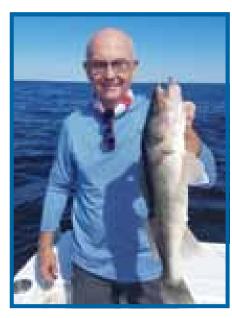
Day Two: Breakfast at 7:00 am, guided walleye fishing (8-5), lunch on the lake, evening meal, lodging in Cabin.

Day Three: Breakfast 7:00 am, guided walleye fishing (8-5), lunch on the lake, evening meal, lodging in Cabin.

Day Four: 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 <u>www.licenses.dnr.</u> <u>state.mn.us</u>, 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.



Celebration Belle Three Day Tour



Day One

On day one we will board the motorcoach in Marion and travel to Le Claire, Iowa. We will enjoy some exciting tours and relaxing views. At the end of the day we meet up for dinner and check into our hotel for the night.

Day Two

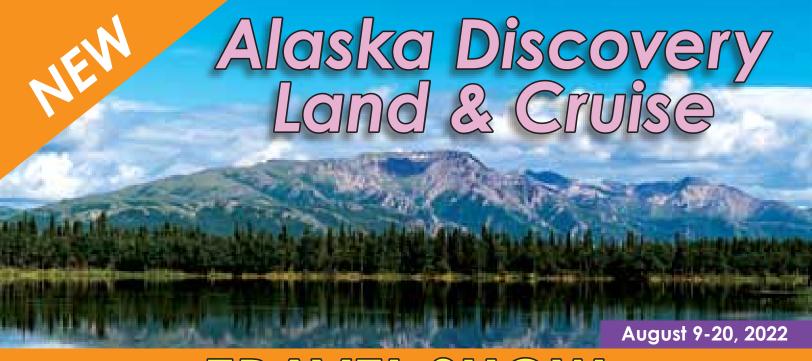
On day two we will experience the magic of the Mighty Mississippi River with the rich history and scenic view in a way you will always remember Aboard the Celebration Belle!

We will board the Celebration Belle (750 passenger paddlewheel boat with 2 open decks, 2 enclosed dining decks, 4 observation areas, large gift shop) and sail from Le Claire, IA to Dubuque, IA. Cruise includes: 3 full meals (breakfast, lunch and their famous prime rib dinner), fabulous entertainment, Captain's narration, scenic views, wildlife, experience cruising through lock and dams & so much more fun on our all day cruise! There is plenty of indoor and outdoor seating, along with an elevator onboard. Once we dock in Dubuque, we check into our hotel for the night.

Day Three

We will enjoy a leisurely breakfast, depart the hotel for some touring, lunch and head back home with amazing memories of this enjoyable three day tour!

Pricing will be announced in the next newsletter. Add your name to the "interested list" and I will automatically send the brochure and pricing to you as soon as I have them completed.



TRAVEL SHOW

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 @ 2:00 PM @ Elmcrest Country Club Must RSVP to attend.

Join me as we traverse the Pacific coast by land and sea aboard the Royal Princess Cruise on a breathtaking journey that takes us from Alaska to Vancouver, British Columbia.

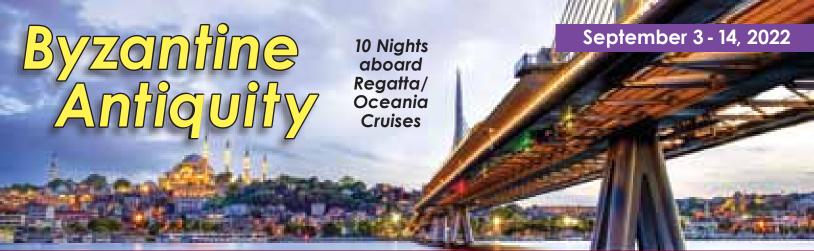
Our tour begins with a cruise on the Sternwheeler Discovery, for an unforgettable journey showcasing Alaska's diverse culture and rich history. In a modern saloon, we will enjoy local dishes inspired by Fannie Q, the famed Alaskan pioneer. We will ride a luxury domed railcar from Denali to Talkeetna, soak in views of the incredible landscapes from glass-ceiling railcars and open-air observation platforms as guides provide expert commentary. Then we travel deep into Denali National Park for the best opportunities to view the region's wildlife. We will make a stop at the Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center to discover where orphaned or injured bears, wolves, porcupines, and moose are cared for in a 200-acre rehabilitation site.

Now it's time to board the Royal Princess and cruise past the mammoth Hubbard Glacier, one of Alaska's largest glaciers, and we will cruise through Glacier Bay, a spectacular national park and preserve. We will relive Alaska's Gold Rush days in

Skagway, home of the famed Chilkoot Trail, explore Alaska's gorgeous capital with massive scenic mountains to historic buildings in Juneau. Then it's on to Ketchikan, the "Salmon Capital of the World" and "City of Totems", and a wonderful day of sightseeing awaits as we sail along the amazing Inside Passage. Our cruise will end in Vancouver, B.C.

This is Alaska as you always imagined.





You must have a passport and completed COVID-19 Vaccine card to join us on this tour.

Day One: Depart for Italy

Day Two: Venice, Italy - Discover la bea vita (the beautiful life) in the fairytale city of Venice. Take in the glory of Venetian architecture, marble palaces and flower-strewn canals, in this timeless city of piazzas, trattorias, and charming old shops. Enjoy Venetian cuisine-inspired by its garden islands and lagoon aquaculture-expressing the city's historic ties to the ancient spice route.

Day Three: Split, Croatia - The largest city on the Adriatic Coast, Split has been under Roman, Venetian, Austrian, French, Italian, and Yugoslav rule. The Old City is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and must-see historic attractions include Diocletian's Palace, the Cathedral of Saint Domnius, and the striking Grgur Ninski Statue. Take time to stroll along the Riva Harbor, browse through the Green Market, and sample the restaurants and wine cellars.

Day Four: Kotor, Montenegro - Beneath the limestone cliffs of Mount Loven lies the dramatic and secluded coastal city of Kotor. Settled during Roman times, this walled medieval city with its narrow streets, Venetian architecture, and the 12th-century Saint Tryphon Cathedral, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day Five: At Sea - Today is a full day at sea. Take in all the fun and excitement the ship has to offer.

Day Six: Chania, Crete, Greece - Chania is a city on the northwest coast of the Greek island of Crete. It's known for its 14th-century Venetian harbor, narrow streets and waterfront restaurants. At the harbor entrance is a 16th-century lighthouse with Venetian, Egyptian and Ottoman influences. Opposite, the Nautical Museum has model ships, naval objects and photographs. The former monastery of St. Francis houses the Archaeological Museum of Chania.

Day Seven: Santorini, Greece - Witness a panorama of indigo-domed churches and chalk-colored homes clinging to stony cliffs along the caldera, black-sand beaches dotted with pebbles beside deep, azure waters, and breathtaking rock formations climbing from the volcanic floor. This is the epitome of Grecian beauty.

Day Eight: Mykonos, Greece - Amid the shimmering waters of the Mediterranean, Mykonos is the heart and soul of the Cyclades. Situated on an island of the same name, the town artfully balances elegance and classic Greek culture within its labyrinth of cobblestone streets and chalk-white homes nestled beside bluedomed churches.

Day Nine: Athens (Piraeus), **Greece** - Wonder at the picturesque port of Piraeus and legendary Athens, one of the world's oldest cities. Built around the ruins of the ancient temple, the Parthenon, Athens is set between its rich modern present and its astounding past.

Day Ten: Kusadasi/Ephesus, Turkey - Kusadasi is home to one of the remaining Seven Wonders of the Ancient World-the Temple of Artemis. Nearby are the legendary ruins of the city of Ephesus whose remains are an important archaeological site and a historic Christian pilgrimage destination.

Day Eleven: Istanbul, Turkey - Indulge your senses in this magnificent city astride two continents and divided by the Bosphorus strait. Once known as Constantinople, Istanbul was the capital of both the Byzantine and Ottoman Empire. Revel in this lively cosmopolitan's fascinating blend of East and West, ancient and modernhome to the impressive Blue Mosque, Topkapi Palace, and the Grand Bazaar.

Day Twelve: Istanbul, Turkey

Everyone receives free internet aboard the ship. You will have your choice of 6 free shore excursions or free beverage package or \$600 shipboard credit. (These amenities are per stateroom based on double occupancy.) Brochure will be available soon. Contact me to be placed on the "interested" list.

Exploring South Africa, Victoria Falls & Botswana

Travel Show

Two Tour Dates Are Being Held: Oct. 6-21, 2022 - FULL AND

Oct. 21 - Nov. 4, 2022 *Only a few spaces left!* Tuesday, January 25, 2022

2:00 PM

Elmcrest Country Club

Must RSVP to attend.



South Africa is all about discovery, revitalizing your spirit and reinventing your thinking. Luxurious resorts, moving township visits, open-air safari game drives and vibrant cities like Cape Town, few destinations can offer such a myriad of enriching experiences.

Get ready for an unparalleled journey through the cultural diversity and abundant wildlife of southern Africa. We will begin our journey in Johannesburg-a vibrant city that revolves around modernity and a gold-mining history. We will venture out in a 4x4 to seek out the "Big 5" on 8 different safaris. First thing on the safaris we will enjoy coffee and tea amongst the wildlife. We will experience an authentic African tent camp with all the amenities of a luxury resort along with a bush dinner under the stars in Pilanesberg National Park. When the rainbows are at their best, we'll witness the natural beauty of Victoria Falls. When the sun sets and the animals gather around the watering hole, we'll toast the stunning African landscape with a sundowner.

We will embark on an experience of a lifetime where we'll greet African elephants and spend time interacting with them and join a local family for a home-based lunch. We'll then search for animals along the winding Chobe River, as we take a safari cruise into the untamed national park with epic scenery, hippos that linger along the shores, crocodiles basking in the sun and winding coastlines that come together in an incredible adventure. On a game drive through Chobe National Park, we'll take in the diverse ecosystems and unparalleled biodiversity. Next up is an unforgettable dinner by river where we'll learn the secret to cooking a traditional braai, complete with some local favorites and delicacies.

Another stop will be the wine lands of the Western Cape where we'll see for ourselves why this area boasts a reputation as one of the world's most beautiful wine countries. The idyllic town of Stellenbosch is home of the most famous wine regions, and where we will settle in for a two-night stay among the rolling vineyards and historic Cape Dutch architecture. Say hello to Cape Town, an electric cultural mecca that captivates you at every turn. From heritage sites to historic landmarks, markets, shops and restaurants, the waterfront is one of South Africa's most compelling destinations. We will rise gently over the South African landscape in a cable car to Table Mountain, taking in the views of Cape Town, Lions Head, and historic Robben Island. We'll travel to Cape Point where we'll marvel at the vibrant green foliage blanketing the rocky outcrops, with an easy hike down the mountain, wandering by diverse patches of native flowers, and a stop at Boulders Beach for the rarest of black-tie events-a rendezvous with endangered African Penguins!

This Explorations tour gives 19 travelers access to the world in a truly authentic way. On these active, immersing journeys, travelers connect with the cultures of the world on a deeper, more meaningful level in ways that are hard to replicate. The group size is kept small allowing these journeys to be the most active, engaging, and rewarding experience possible.

Pricing includes: Round trip air from Cedar Rapids, inter-flights from Johannesburg, sightseeing, baggage handling, deluxe motor coach, 1st class deluxe hotel accommodations, gratuities, and all air taxes/fees/surcharges. A deposit of \$600 per person, plus insurance of \$449 per person and your completed reservation form are required to reserve your space. Final payment will be due by August 8, 2022. Deposits are refundable up until March 8, 2022.



- - - 2022 - - -

All-Inclusive Cancun January 15 - 21, 2022

Islands of New England May 20 - 27, 2022

4-Day Mystery Tour June 7 - 10, 2022

Discover Switzerland, Austria & Bavaria with Oberammergau Passion Play June 24 - July 3, 2022

Ballard's Resort Fishing Trip July 5-7, 2022

> **Alaska** August 9 - 20, 2022

Byzantine Antiquity (Italy, Croatia, Montenegro, Greece, Turkey) September 3 - 14, 2022

> Exploring South Africa, Victoria Falls & Botswana Two Tour Dates: October 6 - 21, 2022 (FULL) AND October 21 - November 4, 2022

> > • • • <u>2023</u> • • •

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Kathy Leesekamp Connect Club Director 319-294-2900 KathyLeesekamp@fsbmail.net PRSRT STD US Postage **PAID** Cedar Rapids, IA Permit No. 214

2022 Calendar

<u>JANUARY</u>

- 6th Cancun Document Party
 @ 1:00 PM
- 15th 21st Cancun
- 25th "NEW" Alaska Travel Show
 2:00 PM
- 26th Movie Day

FEBRUARY

• TBD Seminar

MARCH

• 9th - Movie Day

APRIL

- TBD Seminar
- 7th Fireside Sound of Music

MAY

- 17th Movie Day
- 20th 27th Islands of New England

JUNE

- TBD Seminar
- 7th 10th 4 Day Mystery
- 24th 3rd Passion Play

JULY

- TBD Seminar
- 6th Circa 21 Beauty and the Beast
- 5th 7th Fishing Tour
- 11th 13th Celebration Belle Cruise
- 9th 20th Alaska Land & Cruise

AUGUST

- 5th Flea Market in What Cheer
- 24th Movie Day
- 25th Fireside Wizard of Oz

SEPTEMBER

- TBD Seminar
- 3rd 14th Byzantine Antiquity

OCTOBER

- 4th Movie Day
- 6th 21st Africa
- 20th 4th Africa

NOVEMBER

• TBD Seminar

DECEMBER

• 14th - Movie Day

Due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, all tours are subject to change. FSB will continue to monitor the situation and adjust or cancel tours as needed.

