



Dear FAF Friends,

Last year you were a big part of our Annual Meeting & Convention in Milwaukee. Our 2008 meeting has us heading south to beautiful and sunny Naples, Florida, October 22 – 26. First, I hope that you will attend and second, I hope that you will get involved again this year by being a presenter or moderator.

As requested by so many of you who took the time to provide me with wonderful observations and feedback regarding our Milwaukee meeting, we're making a few changes to this year's schedule. There will be three workshops per time slot instead of four so that we're not spread so thin. We will have a longer seminar-type session on Board management and fundraising; everyone wanted MORE on that subject! Christopher Pinet, FAF Board of Directors and Editor of the French Review, will facilitate the Table Ronde: *The First Eighteen Months of the Sarkozy Presidency*. Panelists for the Table Ronde are Michel Gueldry, PhD, Program Head, French and Francophone Studies, of the Monterey Institute of International Studies; Alec Hargreaves, Director of the Winthrop-King Institute for Contemporary French and Francophone Studies at Florida State University, and Elwood Schneider of the World Affairs Council in Naples.

While the workshops are definitely the place to gather valuable information for your chapter, a lot of useful information is gleaned by talking to your AF colleagues. To that end, Mimi Gregory has several wonderful activities planned:

- Thursday luncheon with Ambassador Pierre Vimont
- Wednesday 9-hole golf tournament
- Prix Charbonnier Dinner on Friday with after-dinner entertainment provided by Tangi Colombel
- Southern barbeque and pétanque tournament on the beach....shorts & flip-flops

Earlier in the month, I had the chance to visit the Naples Hilton and I can tell you that the hotel rooms and meeting facilities are beautiful. All that is lacking is your participation! Attached to this e-mail you will find a workshop proposal form; please feel free to call me if you'd like to discuss an idea. Additional meeting information can be found on the Federation's website: www.afusa.org.

Please share this information with your Board of Directors and general membership.

Hope to hear from you soon and to see you in Naples.

Cordialement,

Becca Brodarick

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