



***You've got questions?
We've got answers.***
***— some general information on our
2nd annual FTCCO Fiesta Conference.***

NEW!

**We've added a day —
Conference starts
WEDNESDAY**

We're getting ready for our **2025 Fiesta Conference!**
Wednesday, April 30 - Sunday, May 4, 2025.

Q: What is the cost for the FTCCO Fiesta Conference, and how do I register?

A: The cost for the Fiesta Conference is \$350. You must be an active FTCCO member. To register, you must have an active FTCCO membership. Please log onto your FTCCO account with your username and password, then click on the Event tab in the store. Hotel reservations, which will allow you to take advantage of the special rates and hotel benefits we have secured, are not available at the time of registration. **We will provide an email to attendees after registration with the information to make hotel reservations. Please do not try to make a hotel reservation before you receive this information from us. We hope you will register soon. The number of registrations is limited.** Conference registration starts Saturday, February 8, 2025, 7pm Eastern; deadline is Friday, March 15, 2025.

Q: When and where will the FTCCO Fiesta Conference be held?

A: The dates of our second annual conference are Wednesday, April 30 - Sunday, May 4, 2025, and will be held at the Pittsburgh Airport Marriott, 777 Aten Road, Coraopolis, PA, 15108. The cost for the hotel is \$154 + tax per night per room. This rate is also available three days before, and three days after, the event. Attendees will receive special instructions after registration is over regarding hotel reservations. Please do not reserve your room until you have this information. The Saturday night gala & auction will be held at the Montour Heights Country Club, located at 1491 Coraopolis Heights Rd., Coraopolis, PA, 15108.

Q: Can I bring a guest with me? If so, how many?

A: You can register one non-member guest at the rate of \$350. This will entitle your guest to attend all the activities, including the factory activities, and the Saturday evening Gala.

Q: What is included in the hotel rate?

A: Hotel registration includes breakfast each morning for two people per room. Meals included in your registration are lunch on Friday, during activities in Newell, WV, and at the Saturday night Gala dinner.

- The hotel is newly renovated and has several amenities for their guests, including a restaurant and bar, and Starbucks (6am-10am). The hotel also offers complimentary guest parking, Wi-Fi, and complimentary fitness center with an indoor pool. The hotel is also pet friendly. Each guest room includes a mini refrigerator.

Q: How do I get to the hotel from the airport?

A: The hotel is located about five minutes from the airport. There is a complimentary shuttle to and from the hotel.

Q: Will there be buses provided for either the Friday trip to the factory or Saturday to the Montour Heights Country Club for the gala?

A: No. Buses will not be provided to either event. The cost of buses for each round trip would be in the thousands of dollars. The money we save on paying for buses can be used to buy more pottery prizes for attendees.

- Our decision was informed by our experience last year. At the 2024 Event, we provided bus transportation to the factory. Only 1 single attendee rode the bus. It is a tribute to the camaraderie of dish friends that they shared rides—and no doubt good conversation and good times. Given the low ridership on a more difficult and lengthier journey to the factory, we determined that the same low ridership would occur in the 5-mile trip between the hotel and the country club. In addition, likely most people will prefer to transport their new pottery by car rather than lug it onto a bus.
- If anyone has trouble arranging transportation, once you get to the conference please check with a Board member. A sign-up sheet will be available. We will find a way to help you get transportation.

Q: Will I receive anything in the mail prior to the FTCCO Fiesta Conference?

A: The registration bag needed for participating and enjoying the event will be available for pickup in the hotel starting Wednesday morning, April 30, at the FTCCO registration table, located in the lobby. You will not receive anything in the mail.

Q: What is inside the registration bag?

A: The bag includes everything you will need for the whole conference experience. Your program booklet will include the timeline of activities. ID name tags must be worn to attend all FTCCO activities.

Q: What if I need to cancel my trip to the FTCCO Fiesta Conference?

A: If you cannot attend and need a refund, our cancellation policy is 100% refundable if cancelled by March 1, 2025; 50% refundable if cancelled after March 1, 2025; no refund after March 15, 2025.

Q: What do I do on Wednesday when I arrive at the hotel?

A: Please pick up your registration bag at the FTCCO registration table located in the lobby. Your name tag is important – you will need to wear it to participate in all of the FTCCO Fiesta Conference activities.

Q: How can I volunteer?

A: The FTCCO and Conference is operated by volunteers, and your help is greatly appreciated. The Board will be emailing its attendees closer to the start of the Conference with a variety of volunteering opportunities, most of the time only requiring an hour or two of your weekend. It's a great way to meet dish friends and help during the Conference.

Q: How else can I get involved?

A: Share your HLC/FTC wares in three categories: Showcase Exhibit; "Ware's the Art?" Display; and Tabletop Display. Three creative ways to showcase your collecting interests with fellow attendees.

Q: What do I wear at the Conference?

A: The Conference attire is overall casual. For the Saturday night Gala, slacks, dressy shorts & shirts w/collars or mock-collared shirts required for men. Slacks, dressy shorts or evening wear for women. Jeans, hats, caps, and visors not permitted.

Q: What else will I need to bring to the event?

A: If you are driving, it's wise to bring boxes and packing materials (bubble wrap, tissue paper, etc.) for your anticipated purchases. Your new dish friends will appreciate if you bring extras to share!

Daily Agenda Summary:

Wednesday Evening

- **Welcome, FTCCO Update and Conference Overview:** The conference kick off will be an interactive presentation focusing on member benefits available through FTCCO and a review of the agenda with a focus on refinements from the first conference and information particularly beneficial to new attendees but relevant to everyone.
- **Welcome Reception:** The Welcome Reception is a great opportunity to meet up and make new friends. Enjoy activities and win prizes. Watch for emails and Facebook posts on additional information about the theme for the evening.

Thursday Events

- **Morning/Afternoon:** Breakfast. Then view exhibits, and plenty of time for attendees to shop at the members consignment booth sales, dealers sales, and FTCCO sales booth. Casual attire.
- **Thursday Late Afternoon/Evening:** Cocktail reception with hors d'oeuvres and cash bar; preview of members consignment auction items with ice cream social; live members consignment auction.

Friday Events

- **Morning/Afternoon:** Breakfast at the hotel, then head over (on your own) to East Liverpool, OH, area for a morning of shopping at the factory outlet. Then head across the street to the Wells Bldg, for interesting FTC seminars, Bingo games & prizes, and catered lunch by Connie's Corner. Then spend the afternoon across the river in East Liverpool with Open House at Museum of Ceramics, and shopping neighboring antique malls such as Pottery City.
- **Evening:** Enjoy an entertaining evening of "First Fridays on Fifth!" on 5th Street from Broadway to

Market Streets in East Liverpool — Live music, crafters, artisans, food trucks, beer and wine tent! 6:00pm - 10pm.

Saturday Events

- **Morning:** Breakfast and seminars. Casual attire.
- **Break for Lunch:** hotel concession on your own.
- **Afternoon:** Seminars. Casual attire.
- **Evening:** Enjoy an evening Banquet Gala at the nearby Montour Heights Country Club. Cocktail hour followed by dinner buffet and auction which starts right after the Gala. It will feature lots of surprises! Dressier evening attire; no jeans.

Sunday Events

- **Breakfast:** Buffet-style breakfast. Casual attire. Following breakfast is an optional visit on your own, to Rebecca Taylor's Open House at her retail business, **Colorful Cupboard**, for drawings, specials, and additional dish shopping. Colorful Cupboard is located nearby at 928 5th Avenue, Coraopolis, PA 15108, phone 904-710-8945.

Q: I have additional questions; contact FTCCO.

A: For answers to additional questions, please contact FTCCO about the event and activities at: info@ftcco.org.

