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FFK membership renewal time!

Form attached at end of newsletter.

2024 Journey Preview

Inbound Manitoba, Canada.....	May 1-7
Outbound Germany (2 clubs):	
FF Hamburg	Aug. 13-20
FF Metropole Ruhr	Aug. 20-27
Open World: Mayors from Poland	Sept. 27-Oct. 5
Inbound St. Louis, MO	Oct. 24-29

The club is hoping to organize a domestic outbound journey for 2024 as well.

Club Website: www.friendshipforceknoxville.org

My Friendship Force: <https://my.friendshipforce.org>

FFK on Facebook: Friendship Force of Knoxville

What happened South of the Border won't stay South of the Border for long.

Many of us were unable to go to Mexico with FFK in November. Fortunately, those who did complete the journey are willing to share their joy, the sights seen and the friendships gained. Come to our general meeting on **January 23** to hear all about it from members, Leslie Badaines, Barbara Elder, Bill Cherry and Joanne Hayden. They are absolutely giddy about the whole thing but are keeping it under their sombreros until the great reveal. Feel free to dress the part and enjoy the celebration!



Seal of Mexico

Come hear all about it, wear your Mexican attire, and enjoy Mexican food, drink and music!



Date: January 23, 2024
Time: 6:15 for supper and social; 7:00 for the meeting and presentation
Where: Pelanchos Mexican Grill
1516 Downtown West Blvd
Knoxville, TN 37919

Note: Members and guests attending will order from the menu and pay for their food and beverages.

Marsha Mitchell, Program Coordinator

Note from the President
a world of friends is a world of peace



This is my final note to you as Friendship Force Knoxville president. For the past three years, I've had the privilege of leading our club, working with amazing individuals who support the Friendship Force mission: to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people.

How do we achieve that lofty goal?

We open our hearts and homes to welcome strangers, and we travel to experience cultural exchange opportunities that enhance understanding and appreciation of other cultures and societies. As Friendship Force International states in its vision statement, "FFI recognizes that these experiences can lead

to lifelong friendships that change the way we see the world."

To everyone who has participated in Friendship Force Knoxville, *thank you*. The world is a better place because of your commitment.

In friendship,
Jayne Raparelli, President

FFK Officers Elected for 2024

The FFK Membership elected unanimously the slate of officers nominated for 2024. Left to right in the photo are the officers and the committee chairs:

- President – Betsy Tonkin
- Vice President – Tammy Enix
- Secretary – Karen Scott
- Treasurer – Bill Cherry
- Program Chair: Marsha Mitchell
- Member Concerns: Paulette Anderson
- Communication Chair: Janis Robinson
- Journey Co-Coordinator: Manfred Grote



Not shown:

- Journey Coordinator: Leslie Badaines
- Historian: Karen Swander

Congratulations to the new officers and THANK YOU to the 18 members who attended the November 28th meeting to vote!



Journeys for 2024!

Greetings and Happy Holidays to all who are celebrating! May the New Year bring good health and joy to all!

Just a few reminders of dates and NEEDS for Journeys, both incoming and outgoing in the New Year:

May 1-8, 2024, Journey # 24132 **FF Manitoba, Canada to FF Knoxville**. We need day hosts for May 2-8 (the incoming club will arrive the afternoon of May 1); set up and clean up help for the Welcome dinner of May 2 (at TVUUC); and small group dinner hosts on Saturday, May 4. If you are available to help with any of these tasks, please contact Co-Ambassador Coordinators Leslie Badaines, (badainesL@aol.com), or Karen Scott, (kas491423@gmail.com)



August 13-27 Journey # 24064 **FF Knoxville to FF Hamburg (Aug. 13-20), and FF Metropole Ruhr (Aug. 20-27), Germany**. The German host clubs have only a limited number of home hosts and can accommodate 4 doubles and 2 singles. FFK members interested in going on this journey should submit their applications ASAP with a check for the \$25 non-refundable deposit. The deposit should be sent to FFK treasurer Bill Cherry (7511 Little River Rd., Knoxville, TN 37920) along with an application sent to Barbara Elder (barbara5448@bellsouth.net).

September 27-October 5, 2024, **Open World: Mayors from Poland to FF Knoxville**. Courtney Shea is Coordinating this incoming program. If you are able to home host or provide other assistance, please let her know (courtshea@aol.com).

October 24- October 29, 2024, Journey # 24159 **FF St. Louis, Missouri to FF Knoxville**. Host co-coordinator is needed to assist with this Journey, as well as home hosts, day hosts, and small group dinner hosts. If able to assist, please contact Leslie (badainesL@aol.com).

Leslie Badaines, Journey Coordinator

Membership Renewal for 2024



Membership renewal time is here! FFK 2024 Membership Dues are **\$45 per member**. Make checks payable to *Friendship Force of Knoxville* and mail to:

Bill Cherry
7511 Little River Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37920

Dues are due by Dec. 31. The renewal form is on the last page of this newsletter and is also available on the FFK web page in the “About Us” section towards the bottom of the webpage.

FFK's Annual Holiday Party



Jayne Raparelli



A great crowd!



Renee Ioannides, Marsha Mitchell, Rebecca Bryant



Jean Mayer, Ron Mayer, Karen Scott



Happy birthday, Don Dougall!



Mike McDonough, Jayne Raparelli, Alice Garrison, Paulette Anderson



Kathryn Atkins-Roberson, Panos Ioannides, Art Mitchell



Dee Pierce, Jayne Raparelli, Barbara Elder, Dave Greenwood



Tammy Enix, Janis Robinson, Bruce Robinson



Bill Cherry, Liz Gregor



Jean Mayer, Phyllis Driver



Alice Garrison, Courtney Shea

Travel/Friendship Quotes

“I’ve learned that no matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with.” Andy Rooney

“Your friends will know you better in the first minute you meet than your acquaintances will know you in a thousand years.” Richard Bach

“By chance we met, by choice we become friends” Millie

“I’ve been to almost as many places as my luggage.” Bob Hope

“Oh the places you’ll go.” Dr. Seuss

"It takes a long time to grow an old friend." John Leonard

“I cannot even imagine where I would be today were it not for that handful of friends who have given me a heart full of joy. Let's face it, friends make life a lot more fun.” Charles R. Swindoll



2024 Upcoming Dates–Mark your Calendar

Virtual Board Meetings (2nd Tuesday, 2 p.m.)
No Dec. Board Mtg

Upcoming FFK General Events

- January 23, 2024: Presentation on Tutxla-Guitterez Journey, location Pelancho, Mexican Grill, 1516 Downtown W Blvd, Knoxville, TN 37919

Check newsletter articles about each event for date, time and place.

These dates and more are on the FFK *Calendar* web page.

2023 Club Officers & Chairs

- President: Jayne Raparelli
- Vice President: Betsy Tonkin
- Secretary: Mike McDonough
- Treasurer: Bill Cherry
- Membership Chair: Betsy Tonkin
- Program Chair: Marsha Mitchell
- Communications Chair: Janis Robinson
- Webmaster: Ray Simko
- Newsletter Editor: Janis Robinson
- Journey Coordinator: Leslie Badaines
- Hospitality Chair: Barbara Elder
- Club Concerns: Paulette Anderson
- Historian: Betsy Tonkin

Host & Ambassador Coordinators are listed on the FFK *About Us* web page

**2024 Friendship Force Knoxville
Membership Application/Renewal**

Friendship Force Knoxville (FFK) anticipates continuing normal activities in 2024. Dues for new and renewing members for 2024 are \$45/person which includes the \$25/person dues we pay for each member to Friendship Force International (FFI). These FFI dues are required and are included in your FFK dues.

In order to update your contact information, we ask that everyone complete the following **Membership Application/Renewal** form. We will send all members an email with a **Member Interest Survey** after the first of the year to assist the club in utilizing the skills and talents of our members.

Please return the completed **Membership Application/Renewal** form to the address below. Be sure to include a check for \$45.

Make all checks payable to Friendship Force of Knoxville and send to:

Bill Cherry, Treasurer, 7511 Little River Rd., Knoxville, TN 37920

You may also scan the form and email it to bcherry9246@yahoo.com.

The deadline for membership renewal for 2024 is Dec. 31, 2023. (Regrettably, in early 2024, we will need to drop folks from the membership roster who have not renewed given payment is due to FFI for all members as of that date.)

Please note: by submitting this application or renewal, you agree to support the goals and purposes of FFI and FFK and to abide by the Bylaws of Friendship Force Knoxville.

Please Print. Circle either application or renewal.

First name _____ Middle initial ____ Last name _____

If your current contact information in the directory is correct, please so note below.

*New member--*Name you would like on your name tag: _____

Street address: _____

City, state, and zip code: _____

Cell phone: Area Code _____ Number _____

Home phone: Area Code _____ Number _____

E-mail: _____

In accordance with sections of our charter with Friendship Force International relating to data protection, please note the information above will be included in a member directory provided to all Friendship Force of Knoxville members. An electronic contact/e-mail list will also be provided to committee chairs, members, and the Board of Directors.

October 24, 2023