



friendship force

KNOXVILLE

“Gateway to Worldwide Friendship”

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July-August 2018

This is the summer newsletter

The next General Meeting of the members of Friendship Force, Knoxville will be held on Tuesday, September 18th, 2018 at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 6.30pm. The Church is located at 2931 Kingston Pike. The Church is on the right side of Kingston Pike next to Second Presbyterian Church.

Social time and Snacks at 6:30 p.m.

Members with surnames between A and L are asked to bring snacks or finger foods.

Program. Dr. Al Legendre will give a presentation on “Traveling the Peruvian Amazon”

Board meeting

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday September 12th at The Egg and I on Kingston Pike at 11:30a.m. It’s an open meeting, so all are welcome.

Informal Lunch

Jayne Raparelli wrote

Twenty-one folks attended the June 20 Friendship Force luncheon at Copper Cellar on Cumberland Avenue. Seven of the 21 were our newest Friendship Force members!

President Diana Lopez welcomed everyone and then we introduced ourselves. It was a great opportunity to get to know our newest members.

After enjoying each other's company and Copper Cellar's food, (it was Burger Wednesday so many of us enjoyed hamburgers) most of us drove to the nearby Knoxville Museum of Art where we were given an excellent docent-led tour at one of Knoxville's gems.

It was a fun time spent in the company of great people.

Note from the President

Check out the websites for our Knoxville club

<https://www.friendshipforceknoxville.org> for a calendar of our events, information on upcoming and past activities, newsletters, and more, and for Friendship Force International at

<http://www.friendshipforce.org>. information on future journeys, member resources, and other clubs. If you have a

Facebook account, you may wish to Like FFI Facebook page.

Welcome to our 27 new members! Ron Mayer and his task force did an excellent job of recruiting, hosting a fantastic meeting on the Friendship Force and why everyone should join, and then collecting applications. There is much work to be done now, and many hands will make it easier.

Our first get-together was a lunch at Copper Cellar and a visit to the Knoxville Museum of Art. Next up is possibly a trip to the Flying Anvil Theatre where one of our new members, Bill Cherry, serves on the board. If you have other ideas, please let us know. We want to get to know our new members as quickly as possible.

One good way to get involved is to get involved! Please see the request elsewhere in the newsletter for people to join in our activities and where help is needed. We'd like everyone to be doing something!

We will be requesting inbound journeys for 2020 in August and outbound journeys in November. If you have suggestions, let us know.

Jayne Raparelli has agreed to serve as Host Coordinator for the Cape of Good Hope club in June. We should have exact dates shortly, and we hope that many of you will be around to host either overnight or day. She will also need a committee to plan the activities. Let her know if you are interested.

On a sad note, we lost one of our long-time members in Lonnie McIntyre. We all send our condolences to his wife, Ruthie. A donation has been made in his name to the New Covenant Baptist Church in Farragut.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting is Sept 18. Al Legendre will be speaking about his trip on the Peruvian Amazon. Please come mix and mingle with all our members.

As always, if you have any suggestions or ideas for the club, please feel free to share those with me. My email is dlopez@utk.edu, tel. # 865 223 4036.

Diana Lopez

IN MEMORIUM

We were saddened to learn that The Rev. Dr. Lonnie McIntyre passed away on Saturday, June 16th. At his request he was cremated. A memorial service was held at the Click Funeral Home, Farragut Chapel on Wednesday, June 27th.

He and Ruthie had been long time members of Friendship Force of Knoxville traveling with our club and other Friendship Force clubs. Through his ministry and Friendship Force they visited forty-four countries. One of his favorite expressions was "IT IS WHAT IT IS!"

Our sympathy and prayers are with Ruthie and her family.

Share Your Time and Talents with Friendship Force of Knoxville

Our recent Membership Recruitment Campaign resulted in a large increase in our membership. Now is the time we ask all members to look at what time and talents you can share with the club.

The club has immediate needs in many areas. If you can help, your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Below is a listing of some talents and skills we need along with a brief description of that need:

Photographers – We need individuals who can take pictures at club meetings, club events and in-bound and/or out-bound journeys working with other members to get these pictures into the newsletter and on the website and to FFI.

Videographers – We need individuals to do video work at special occasions.

Host Coordinator – Someone who could coordinate an inbound journey from Sonoma/Napa Counties for Fall 2019.

In the above areas please call or email Diana Lopez at (865) 223-4036 or dlopez@utk.edu.

Telephone Committee – Here members are asked to volunteer to call 3 or 4 other members before club meetings or other events to remind them about the meeting or event and to touch base with our members.

Website – The club currently uses Go-Daddy.com for it base. If you have experience with it or other websites your assistance can be used.

Historian – Here one or more individual are needed to work with, to organize and present the information that has been gathered over the years. Ideally the result would be an n electronic chronology that can be added to in the years to come.

In the above areas please call or email Ray Simko at (865) 670-3564 or raysimko@yahoo.com.

Newsletter – Here we need individuals with writing ability to assist with articles for the newsletter.

Contact Don Dougall at (865) 609-1059 or ddougall@utk.edu

Activities Committee – Members are needed to assist the Activity Chair with planning and set-up for club meetings and other functions.

Contact Sandy Kehne at (865)438-4410 or sbkehne@gmail.com.

Program Committee – The club is also looking for individuals to present programs at club meetings or find individuals who can present programs that would be of interest to our membership.

Contact Janis Robinson at (865) 690-7841 or jgr@utk.edu.

Committee Members – Our inbound journey with Cape of Good Hope needs members to help plan activities, meals etc.

Contact Jayne Raparelli at (423) 871-1739 or jaynerap@aol.com.

JOURNEYS

INCOMING JOURNEYS

International Exchange Preview

We have been asked by Friendship Force International to participate in an incoming journey from Cape of Good Hope, South Africa to Western North Carolina and Knoxville, U.S.A. We will keep you informed as this develops.

OUTBOUND JOURNEYS

La Serena, Chile

Nine of us from FFK along with five from Raleigh will be heading to La Serena Chile in November. We're planning some extra time in Santiago, and perhaps afterward

some may go to the Lakes District, Atacama Desert, or Patagonia. We still have one slot available for either club, so if you are interested, please send in the application and fees immediately.

Ron Mayer is our Journey Coordinator, and we all met in early June to discuss many issues. We have a checklist of what to do, a complete itinerary from the La Serena club, and a few of us already have airline tickets. We're looking forward to a great exchange.

Friendship Force International

The Journey Catalogues for FFI (friendshipforce.org) are good sources of journeys being offered in the future which our members can join. These include

Bicycle Tour Through the Ruhr Valley

September 7 to September 14, 2018

Discover the Biodiversity of Southwestern

Australia

October 8 to 19, 2018

Republic of Georgia with an optional extension to Armenia

Oct. 14 – 25, extension Oct. 25-31, 2018
For details contact Sherry Wileman at (slwileman@mindspring.com) or at 404-386-9224

Discover Morocco

November 1 to November 15, 2018

Discover Mongolia and Siberia

August 1 to August 15, 2019

Discover Kenya with an optional 6 day safari (extension) to national parks

November 2 to 15, 2018

For additional information about these journeys contact FFI either by e-mail or at Facebook.

Minutes of the May Meetings

Friendship Force Knoxville

Board Meeting

May 9, 2018

Present: Jim Dennis, Don Dougall, Panos Ioannides, Renee Ioannides, Sandy Kehne, Jean Mayer, Ron Mayer, Bruce Robinson, Janis Robinson, Karen Setzfand, Ray Simko

Jean called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. Meeting location was the Egg and I in Bearden.

Secretary's Report Minutes of the March 14, 2018 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Ray passed out the Treasurer's Report which included the operating account from January 1, 2018 through April 30, 2018 and the cash balances for 2018.

Membership Task Force

Ron Mayer reported on the work of committee which is hoping to recruit new members. To date there are 45 people who have indicated they plan to attend the meeting on May 15, 2018.

May 15, 2018 Meeting

Sandy Kehne is working on the food list for the May meeting. She will call members to ask them to provide food for the occasion. Hors d'oeuvres and drinks will be

served. It was decided that new members will pay \$30.00 for a yearly membership which will include a new badge.

Janis suggested that we have a drawing for free memberships. Several members indicated that they would contribute money for this.

Journey Updates

Ron reported that he hopes to receive the daily itinerary from La Serena, Chile in June. There are spaces left. We need to encourage people to sign up soon. We will be coordinating with the Raleigh Friendship Force Club. Emails about the trip will be sent to prospective members.

Two journeys have been suggested for 2019 - South Africa inbound with the Western Carolina Club and an inbound journey with Sonoma, California in the fall perhaps with reciprocal exchange the following year. This would be coordinated with the Memphis Club. The board agreed to consider both but if we had to choose they felt like the Sonoma journey would be better. No decision could be made until after the May 15th meeting when we see how many new people join our club.

Programs

Janis Robinson reported that the program for September will be presented by Dr. Al Legendre, Retired, UT School of Veterinary Medicine. He will discuss traveling the Peruvian Amazon. She is working on getting a speaker for the October 30, 2018 meeting who can share information about Chile.

Activities

Sandy discussed possible places to have the Holiday Party. It was decided to reserve the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church for Saturday evening December 8, 2018. Having it at the church will enable guests to mix and mingle with each other which is difficult when you are seated at separate tables at a restaurant.

Sandy is also working on a picnic to be held on Tuesday June 12, 2018. The place has not yet been determined.

Communications

Don Dougall sent out the latest newsletter. We need to keep him informed of any updates.

New Business

The possibility of hosting an Open World Group was discussed. The board was very friendly to the idea if it could be worked into the schedule for next year.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Jean Mayer Secretary

Friendship Force Knoxville General Meeting May 15, 2018

The Friendship Force Knoxville met on Tuesday May 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church.

This was a special meeting which was the culmination of the work of the Task Force for Membership. Printed invitations were sent to prospective members. The result was a very well attended gathering that included fifty-one guests and twenty-four members.

The food provided by members was plentiful and delicious. There was an assortment of hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and drinks. Our members arrived at 5:00 p.m. to set up tables and chairs for the event. Sandy Kehne provided beautiful flowers for each table, as well as coordinating the food and setting up.

After prospective members were greeted, they were given a personalized name tag and an informational flyer about Friendship Force International.

While dining at the tables, people played ice breaker games to get to know each other better.

Diana Lopez opened the program by welcoming our guests and presenting an introduction to Friendship Force International and Friendship Force Knoxville. A video was shown which featured the purpose of Friendship Force and a short explanation by Jeremi Snook who is currently serving as President/CEO of the organization. It also gave his vision.

Jon Murray spoke about his travel experiences with Friendship Force including incoming and outgoing journeys.

Another short video was shown which gave examples of interaction between Friendship Force Clubs.

Ron Mayer spoke about incoming and outgoing journeys, cultural experiences, and lifelong friendships that are found.

A question and answer session was conducted with different people answering questions and offering information.

Door prizes consisted of free memberships to Friendship Force. Six lucky guests had their names drawn.

The meeting was a very special occasion for both our members and visitors. The goal of bringing awareness and information about Friendship Force to friends in our community was met. As a result, twenty guests joined with an anticipation of several more to follow. In addition, some new people signed up to travel to La Serena with the Knoxville Club. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Jean Mayer Secretary

Birthday & Anniversary Wishes

The Members of the Club send their best wishes for their **Birthdays** to

Barbara Taylor on June 5th
Dave Ostermeier on June 7th
Mike McDonough on June 13th
Nancy Showalter on June 20th
Jane Armstrong on June 21st
Barbara Elder on June 23rd
Jasmin Mishu
Ron Mayer on July 4th
Leslie Badaines on July 7th
Ron DuBois on July 10th
B.E. Colway on July 15th
Wanda Rogers on July 18th
Joanne Hayden on July 21st
Laura Ford
Layla Mishu
Diana Lopez on August 14th
Sandra Kehne on August 20th

and for their **Anniversaries** to

Jane & Pat Armstrong on June 6th
Janet & John Murray on June 12th

Janis & R. Bruce Robinson on June 15th
Pat & Gary Chambers on June 17th
Annalisa & Gus Roehrig on June 24th
Sally & Dave Ostermeier on July 1st
Ely & Phyllis Driver on August 10th
Renee & Panos Ioannides on August 23rd
Jasmine & Tom Mishu on August 23rd
Barbara Taylor on August 26th
Karen Setzfand & Ray Simko on August
28th

**Correction to birthday &
anniversary list**

We apologize for the omission of **Joanne Schuetz** from the March recognition of birthdays. Her birthday is March 23rd.