



friendship force

KNOXVILLE

“A world of friends is a world of peace”

FFK Website: www.Friendshipforceknoxville.org

FFI Website: <https://friendshipforce.org/>

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Journey Overviews

2022

Open World Uzbekistan	October 7-15
Outbound Australia:	Gold Coast: Oct 19-26
.....	North Moreton: Oct 26-Nov 2

2023

Inbound Western Colorado	April 23-29
Outbound Western Colorado.....	June 11-17

Note from the President

Here we are at the end of summer, yet Friendship Force of Knoxville has many activities planned for the remainder of the year.

- We will meet **in person** on **Tuesday, August 23**, at a **new location and time**. Come hear the FFK ambassadors who journeyed to Washington/Oregon last month, and enjoy a lunch, weather permitting, on the patio at the Union Place Bar and Grill. *See page 2 for more details.*
- In September, we will learn about the **Open World** program that will bring five judges from **Uzbekistan** to Knoxville in October.
- At our October gathering, FFK members will have the opportunity to **meet the Uzbekistan Open World judges**.
- We had such a great time this past June visiting the Shelton House in Waynesville, North Carolina, that we thought we’d try a different venue: **The Smith Theatre which is across the street from the old Barter Theatre, the week after Thanksgiving.**



For details about these events, see the inside pages of our newsletter.

Jayne Raparelli, President

Let's Get Together, Yeah, Yeah, Yeah!

Our **August 23rd** meeting will be held at the Union Place Bar & Grill, located at 4884 Chambliss (turn north off Kingston Pike onto Carr, beside Fisher Tire) at a new time: **11:30 AM!** Enjoy lunch outside under the trees while Jayne, Mike, Ron, Jean & Barbara tell us about their fascinating trip to Lower Columbia. It will be a panel discussion with a moderator and will surely include numerous zingers. Please RSVP to Marsha (globalmarsha@gmail.com) ASAP so we'll know how many places to set. In case of rain, we will have access to an inside room for those who feel comfortable meeting indoors.

On **September 27**, the Zoom meeting will be at **6:30 pm** and help us prepare for our VIP Visitors: **Judges from Uzbekistan!** That's right; they'll be here October 7-15 via the Open World Program and we are so honored to be able to host. Betsy Tonkin will provide updated information on Open World and introduce a special guest formerly of Knoxville, who lived for over a year in Uzbekistan. Our guest is very knowledgeable about Uzbekistan's judicial system as well as its culture. This will be an excellent introduction to the upcoming program!

We will have an in-person event at TVUUC on **October 7-15** -- a reception for the Uzbekistan judges during their Open World visit. This event, to which all are invited, will take the place of our October meeting. More information as to the specific date and time will be available soon. Please volunteer to help as much as you can. Betsy Tonkin and her committee will solicit your assistance.

November 22 we'll have a very short meeting, probably via Zoom, for the sole purpose of electing officers for 2023.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving and then hit the road for a very special out of town event. On Tuesday, **November 29**, we're going to Abingdon, VA, to the **Smith Theatre which is across the street from the old Barter Theatre!!!** In the Smith Theater at the 2pm matinee we'll take in the production, "Over the River and Through the Woods." We'll reserve a nearby restaurant for lunch around noon. Some may wish to spend one or maybe two nights in the all-new Hampton Inn which will give us a group rate. There is much to do in and around Abingdon, including Christmas shopping in their unique stores.



Check these out:

<https://bartertheatre.com/big-shows/over-the-river-and-through-the-woods/>

<https://visitabingdonvirginia.com/directory/the-virginia-creeper-trail-welcome-center>.

More information will be sent later, but please email Marsha (globalmarsha@gmail.com) if you think you'll probably go to Abingdon for lunch and the theater, and whether you might like to spend a night or two. We're working on group discounts! IT'LL BE A BLAST, BLAST, BLAST!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, MAKE PLANS AND EMAIL MARSHA. 🚗 🗣️ 😊

Marsha Mitchell, Program Coordinator

FFK Journey Information for 2022 & 2023



Australia, Outbound Journey # 22408 (October 19- November 2, 2022):

There are 11 Ambassadors eagerly awaiting the start of this Journey that includes an optional stay in Sydney, and 2 weeks visiting the Friendship Force Clubs of the Gold Coast and North Moreton. Both of these hosts clubs are in Queensland.

Open World Uzbekistan Judges October 7-15, 2022: We will host five Uzbek judicial delegates, a facilitator and an interpreter through the Open World Congressional program to allow them to learn about the United States judicial system and also to share information with local judges and lawyers about their system. The agenda will not be finalized until after we learn the backgrounds of the delegate judges, but it will include observing Federal and State court proceedings, meeting with judges, visiting both LMU and UT law schools, and meeting with other local officials and lawyers.



Betsy Tonkin is the FFK coordinator for the visit, with Marsha Mitchell and Courtney Shea co-coordinating. U.S. District Judge Thomas Varlan will be the Host Judge. If you are willing to host one of these delegates in your home or host a dinner, please contact Betsy ASAP. We will need to provide host names and information by Sept. 7. (betst@mac.com)



FF Western Colorado, Inbound Journey #23166 April 23-29, 2023:

Ten to twelve Ambassadors from the Grand Junction area will be visiting us in April. Please contact Leslie Badaines if you are willing to be a Host Coordinator, a home host, small dinner host, or day host of an activity. (badainesL@aol.com)

FF Western Colorado Outbound Journey # 23192 June 11-17, 2023:

Janis and Bruce Robinson are the Ambassador Coordinators for this outbound Journey to FF Western Colorado. This club is close to the Utah border, which makes a visit to Arches National Park a possibility, along with other interesting sites in the area (see the article below). This Journey is limited to 15 Ambassadors, so if you have an interest in going on this Journey, please contact Janis and Bruce (jgr@utk.edu).

Leslie Badaines, Journey Coordinator

Grand Junction, Colorado, Here We Come!

“Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So... get on your way!” Dr. Seuss



Planning has already started for the June 11-17, 2023, FFK Outbound Journey to the Western Colorado FF Club. Bruce and Janis Robinson are the Ambassador Co-coordinators for this Journey and if you are thinking about coming along, please e-mail jgr@utk.edu and let them know you are interested. This is not the registration for the Journey. The Robinsons just want an idea of the number of FFK members who might come. This group will help determine which activities we would like to participate in when we get to Grand Junction, CO.

At this time, the estimated cost will be between \$250 and \$350 including the FFI fee.

Friendship Force Western Colorado provided the following list of activities that our visit could include:

- Museum of the Mountain West
- The Grand Mesa
- Palisade: Colorado Wine Country
- The National Monument, Grand Junction
- Dinosaur Museum in Fruita, CO
- Tour of downtown Grand Junction
- The Science Museum at the University of Colorado Grand Junction
- A drive through the historic parts of Grand Junction
- The Grand Junction Western Museum
- The Cross Orchards Farming Museum
- The Arches National Park
- Ouray, CO and the Million Dollar Highway
- Other activities around Grand Junction:

A PDF has been created with the links to information about the area and can be found on the FFK Journey web page in the *Downloads* section at the bottom. The FFK website address is at the top of the first page of this newsletter.

Remember to send an email to jgr@utk.edu if you are interested!

Bruce & Janis Robinson, Ambassador Co-coordinators

Travel/Friendship Quotations

“It is in all of us to defy expectations, to go into the world and to be brave, and to want, to need, to hunger for adventures. To embrace the chance and risk so that we may breathe and know what it is to be free.”
Mae Chevette, American artist & photographer

“The impulse to travel is one of the hopeful symptoms of life.” Agnes Repplier, American essayist

“Wherever you go becomes a part of you somehow.” Anita Desai, Indian novelist

“As soon as I saw you, I knew a grand adventure was about to happen.” Winnie The Pooh

Upcoming Dates—Mark your calendar

Virtual Board Meetings (2nd Tues, 2:00 p.m.)
September 13 October 11 November 8

NOTE: If you are interested in attending the virtual Board Meetings, please e-mail Betsy Tonkin (betst@mac.com) for the Zoom link.

Upcoming FFK General Events:

- August 23:..... Lunch at Union Place & Lower Columbia trip presentation
- September 27 Learn about Uzbekistan via Zoom
- October 7-15 Open World Event-Judges from Uzbekistan; In-person TBD
- November 22..... Short Club Business Meeting & Elections via Zoom
- November 29..... Trip to Abingdon, VA, & The Smith Theatre
- December TBD Holiday Party

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

Club Officers & Chairs

- President:Jayne Raparelli
- Vice President:Betsy Tonkin
- Secretary:Mike McDonough
- Treasurer:Bruce Robinson
- Membership Chair:Betsy Tonkin
- Program Chair:Marsha Mitchell
- Communications Chair:Janis Robinson
- Webmaster:Ray Simko
- Newsletter Editor:Janis Robinson
- Journey Coordinator:Leslie Badaines
- Immediate Past Journey Coordinator:Diana Lopez
- Hospitality Chair:.....Sandy Kehne
- Club Concerns:Renee Ioannides
- Historian:Jonathan Hash

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

No Title
By Drewniverses

You are not a tree. You are not bound to the ground you walk on. You have wings and dreams and a heart full of wonder. So pick up your feet and go. Spread kindness like a wildflower wherever you go. Fall in love with the life you live, and always leave people better than you found them.

