



friendship force

KNOXVILLE

“A world of friends is a world of peace”

FFK Website: friendshipforceknoxville.org

FFI Website: friendshipforce.org

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November 2022

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Journey Overview

2023

Inbound Western Colorado	April 23-29
Outbound Western Colorado.....	June 11-17
Inbound Spokane, Washington.....	September 13-19
Outbound Tuxla-Gutierrez	November 1-8

FFK 2023 Membership Dues--\$45 per member. Make checks payable to Friendship Force of Knoxville. Mail to Bill Cherry, 7511 Little River Rd., Knoxville, TN 37920. Dues are due by Dec. 31.

Note from the President 2022 Year-In-Review



Friendship Force Knoxville enjoyed a successful year thanks to the engagement of you -- our members.

We began the year with Zoom programs on the outbound Fall 2021 San Antonio journey, travels to Egypt by FFK members Susana Navarro-Valenti and Susan Dakak, and a Moroccan adventure by Rusha and Bert Sams.

In April we hosted ambassadors from the Des Moines Friendship Force Club. FFK had journeyed to Des Moines back in August 2019.

We gathered together for a May lunch at Suttree Landing Park in South Knoxville overlooking the Tennessee River.

In June we joined the Western North Carolina club for an outing to the Shelton House in Waynesville, North Carolina.

FFK ambassadors flew to the Pacific Northwest in July where the Lower Columbia FF club hosted us.

In August we got together on the patio of the Union Place Bar and Grill for lunch to hear about the Lower Columbia journey.

(continued)

Our September program was all about Uzbekistan in preparation for the October Open World visit by Uzbek judicial delegates.

Last month we hosted the Uzbek delegates and held a Welcome Dinner. FFK ambassadors traveled to Australia on the long-awaited outbound journey.

I hope to see you all on Nov. 22 via Zoom when we vote on the 2023 officers.

And we're still not finished. Many of us will be at the Smith Theatre in Abingdon, Virginia, on Nov. 29. And then there's the Dec. 4 Holiday Party! I hope to see many of you at both events.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Jayne Raparelli, President

FFK Elections for 2023

The Nominating Committee is placing into consideration the following slate of officers for 2023:

- President – Jayne Raparelli
- Vice President – Betsy Tonkin
- Secretary – Mike McDonough
- Treasurer – Bill Cherry

The membership will vote on the officers at the November 22 meeting, held on Zoom at 6:30. A quorum is necessary to vote on the officers.

The following members have agreed to serve as chair of the respective committees:

- Program – Marsha Mitchell
- Hospitality – Barbara Elder
- Communication – Janis Robinson
- Webmaster – Ray Simko
- Journey – Leslie Badaines
- Historian – Betsy Tonkin
- Club Concerns – Paulette Anderson

They would appreciate any help you can give them throughout the year.

Zoom information to connect to the FFK Annual Meeting & Elections:

Date: November 22, 2022

Times (Eastern Time):

Social: 06:30 PM and Election: 7:00 PM

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/27y83z2s>

Meeting ID: 871 4635 0072

Passcode: 577345

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)



Submitted by the Nominating Committee:
Diana Lopez & Art Mitchell

Program Notes

2022:

November 22: Put this date on your calendar and log into a brief Zoom meeting (the link is on page 2 of this newsletter). The sole purpose of the meeting is the election of officers, and **we must have a quorum**. Log in as early as **6:30 pm** to chat with members; the vote will take place shortly after **7:00 pm**. *We need your vote!*



November 29: The eighteen members and friends who signed up to go to Abingdon, VA, will be eating lunch together and attending a play at the Smith Theatre. They will also enjoy a gourmet meal at The Tavern, an historic venue dating back to 1779! Most of the group will be spending the night and taking advantage of the great shops and sites in and around Abingdon by day. No doubt a good time will be had by all.

December 4: Holiday Party. See information on this page below.

2023:

January 24: We'll meet at TVUUC at 6:30 to socialize, and at 7:00 our delegates who journeyed to Australia will share the highlights of their phenomenal trip. Leslie Badaines, Joann Hayden and Ellen and Dave Greenwood will, no doubt, thrill us with their stories and descriptions of the places they visited and the interesting people they met. Don't miss it!

Marsha Mitchell, Program Chair

Holiday Party!

Mark Sunday, **December 4**, on your calendars for the 2022 FFK Holiday Party at the Highland Point Clubhouse in West Knoxville.

Date: Sunday, December 4

Time: 2-4 p.m.

Place: Highland Point Clubhouse (off of Westland Dr.)
7912 High Heath
Knoxville 37919

Please invite a guest who may be interested in FFK and include the number of attendees in your RSVP!



The club will provide appetizers, homemade eggnog and a punch.

Please bring holiday cookies to share. Remember to wear your FFK name badge.

RSVP to Jayne Raparelli jaynerap@aol.com
423-871-1739 by **Nov. 25**.

2023 Membership Dues—you can pay at the Holiday Party: \$45 per member. Make checks payable to Friendship Force of Knoxville. Dues are due by Dec. 31, 2022.

Journey Notes for 2022 (accomplished!) & 2023 (yet to be!)

There has been a lot of activity in the FFK Journey “department” in the last few weeks:

- Open World Uzbekistan Judicial Officials arrived October 7 and spent a week visiting with local courts and engaging with Judicial officials. See the article in last month’s October newsletter.
- Australian ambassadors have completed their Journey to FF Gold Coast and FF North Moreton clubs. See more details in the article on page 5.



- FF Western Colorado is in the process of choosing Ambassadors for their April visit. Leslie and co-host coordinator, Betsy Tonkin are still looking for home hosts and small dinner hosts. If you are willing to assist, please contact Leslie, (badainesl@aol.com).

- Our reciprocal visit to FF Western Colorado is this June. Janis and Bruce Robinson are recruiting ambassadors for this Journey. If you have an interest in this Journey, please let Janis

know (jgr@utk.edu). They will shortly be asking you what activities you would like to do on our Journey!

- Diana Lopez is the Host coordinator for the September 13-19, 2023, incoming visit from FF of Eastern Washington-Northern Idaho. She would like to have someone working with her on this if possible. (dlopez@utk.edu).

- Our Journey to Tuxla-Gutierrez, Mexico is set! Leslie has heard from the Club President and our Journey will be during the Día de Los Muertos celebration, November 1-8 (leaving on the 8th). There is an optional 3-day post tour to the Palenque Mayan ruins. Palenque was a Mayan city state in southern Mexico that perished in the 8th century. The Palenque ruins date from ca. 226 BC to ca. 799 AD. Update your passport and be prepared to join us on this trip.

November 1-8



Leslie Badaines, Journey Coordinator

Australia Journey, Oct-Nov, 2022

Greetings from Australia, or “G’day Mates!” When this newsletter sets sail, I will have just returned from over a month “Down Under.”



Australian ambassadors have completed our Journey to FF Gold Coast and FF North Moreton clubs. Many ambassadors, including myself, have extended their stay past the end date of the October 19- November 2 Journey. I return November 15. During our optional pre-trip to Sydney, many of us toured the Opera House, rode the Hop On, Hop Off Bus and ferries, and toured various museums. The Gold Coast Journey included the opportunity to visit a wildlife sanctuary, rain forest, a Volunteer Marine Boat Rescue organization, and an opportunity to tour the area via ferry. We also learned that Gold Coasters know how to party!

We arrived in North Moreton via train, and had a whirlwind week of well-planned activities, including: a visit to the Glass House Mountains; a night in the countryside where we got to experience rural farm life; a tour of the city of Brisbane; a visit to Steve Irwin’s Australia Zoo; and the fun and frenzy of Melbourne Cup Day.

Leslie Badaines, FFK Ambassador to Australia

Travel/Friendship Quotations

“Friendship is the golden thread that ties the heart of all the world.”
John Evelyn

“The fastest way to make a friend for life is to travel with a stranger.” Christina Pfeier

“Here’s to all the places we went. AND here’s to all the places we’ll go.” John Green

“We travel, initially, to lose ourselves, and we travel, next, to find ourselves. We travel to open our hearts and eyes. And we travel, in essence, to become young fools again—to slow time down and get taken in and fall in love once more.” Ray Bradbury

“If you don’t know where you are going, you might wind up someplace else.” Yogi Berra

"We keep moving forward, opening new doors, and doing new things, because we're curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths." Walt Disney



Upcoming Dates–Mark your calendar

Virtual Board Meetings

- December: No board meeting

**Upcoming FFK General Events:
2022**

- November 22.....Short Club Business Meeting & Elections via Zoom
- November 29.....Trip to Abingdon, VA, & The Smith Theatre
- December 4Holiday Party, Highland Point Clubhouse

2023

- January 24In-person, TVUUC, Australia adventures

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

2022 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