



“A world of friends is a world of peace”

FFK Website: [friendshipforceknoxville.org](http://friendshipforceknoxville.org)

FFI Website: [friendshipforce.org](http://friendshipforce.org)

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**Journey Overviews**

**2022**

Outbound Australia: .....**IN PROGRESS!**  
 .....Gold Coast: Oct 19-26  
 .....North Moreton: Oct 26-Nov 2

**2023**

Inbound Western Colorado .....

April 23-29

Outbound Western Colorado..... June 11-17

Inbound Spokane, Washington.....September 13-19

**Note from the President**



I'm very grateful that Friendship Force Knoxville participated in an Open World visit by an Uzbekistan judicial delegation. The experience expanded my understanding of this Central Asian country while creating life-long memories and friendships. The delegation learned much about the Rule of Law as they met judges, attorneys, and law professors. They also experienced life here in East Tennessee with a variety of cultural activities. (See the pictures on page 4 of this newsletter and on the FFK Facebook page.) The eight days went by very quickly. By the time we bid goodbye at McGhee Tyson airport, I felt sad to see our new friends leave.

During the Open World visit, four of our members departed for a *journey to Australia*: Ambassador Coordinator Leslie Badaines, Ellen and Dave Greenwood, and Joanne Hayden. From their posts on the *FFK Facebook page*, it looks like they are having a great time.

**Here's what we can look forward to for the remainder of 2022:**

- Nov. 22—Annual meeting to vote on our 2023 Slate of Officers. *We need a quorum so please Zoom in no matter where you happen to be!*
- Nov. 29—Trip to Abingdon, Virginia, to watch the play, “*Over the River and Through the Woods*” at the Smith Theatre.
- December—Details to be announced—*Holiday Party*.

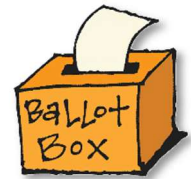
Jayne Raparelli, President

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## FFK Officers Nominated 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. **Watch for the link and please mark the date on your calendar so you can attend.** 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.

Submitted by the Nominating Committee:  
*Diana Lopez & Art Mitchell*

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## November Club Events!

**November 22:** Put this date on your calendar and log into a brief Zoom meeting (the link will be sent to you). 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:** Seventeen (17) members and friends have signed up to go to Abingdon, VA. We'll enjoy a scrumptious lunch at Luke's café (<https://www.ilovelukes.com/home>) before heading to the Smith Theatre (across from the Barter Theatre). The performance of "Over the River and Through the Woods" will begin at 2:00 pm. (<https://bartertheatre.com/big-shows/over-the-river-and-through-the-woods/>).

The chefs at The Tavern are expecting us for fine dining that evening. The atmosphere and cuisine are phenomenal at this famous, historic restaurant (<https://abingdontavern.net/>). Most of us will be spending the night at the *all-new* Hampton Inn at a discounted group rate. On Wednesday we'll shop, sightsee, walk, bike or whatever suits us. Check out: <https://visitabingdonvirginia.com/directory/the-virginia-creeper-trail-welcome-center>. *A great time will be had by all!*

There are some tickets and rooms left for our group, but you must notify Marsha Mitchell asap if you want to join the group, at [globalmarsha@gmail.com](mailto:globalmarsha@gmail.com) or **865-335-3875**. After October 27, the remaining tickets will be released to the public. Tickets are \$36.

*Marsha Mitchell, Program Chair*

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

Open World Uzbekistan Judicial Officials arrived October 7 and departed October 15. Thanks to Betsy Tonkin and her committee members, Marsha Mitchell and Courtney Shea, who worked extremely hard in preparing the weeklong program for our guests. Many thanks also to those who hosted guests in their homes: Betsy Tonkin; Courtney Shea; Marsha and Art Mitchell; Jayne Raparelli and Mike McDonough; Jean and Ron Mayer; and Rasha and Bert Sams. Thanks, also, to those who hosted small dinners: Jean & Ron Mayer, Gail Tyson and Bruce & Janis Robinson.



Australian Ambassadors have departed for a pre-trip to Sydney, and scheduled visits to Friendship Force clubs in the Gold Coast and North Moreton. Most of us have extended our stay past the end date of the October 19- November 2 Journey. Look for our photos on the Friendship Force Knoxville Facebook page.

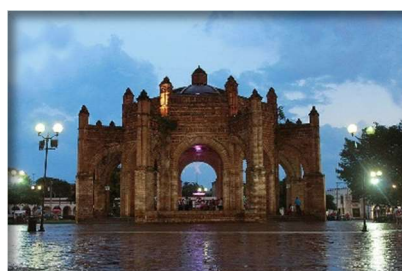
In photo at left are the FFK Ambassadors to Australia on a Hop-in, Hop-off bus in Sydney  
In front: Leslie Badaines & Dave Greenwood; in rear: Joanne Hayden & Ellen Greenwood

FF Western Colorado is in the process of choosing Ambassadors for their April 23 -29, 2023, visit to Knoxville. Leslie and Co-Host Coordinator, Betsy Tonkin, are still looking for home hosts and small dinner hosts. Contact Leslie if you are interested in participating ([badainesL@aol.com](mailto:badainesL@aol.com))



Our reciprocal visit to FF Western Colorado is this June 11-17, 2023. Janis and Bruce Robinson are recruiting ambassadors for this Journey. ([jgr@utk.edu](mailto:jgr@utk.edu))

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](mailto:dlopez@utk.edu))



Hola, Tuzla-Gutierrez, Mexico! We have been assigned this match for 2023, but as yet have no word from the host club on available dates for our journey. Watch the newsletter for updates!!

*Leslie Badaines, Journey Coordinator*

## Leaders from Uzbekistan Examine Rule of Law With FFK

Uzbekistan has become not just a name on a map, but a name which triggers the charm, intelligence and curiosity demonstrated by the 5 judicial delegates and the facilitator/interpreter from Tashkent, Uzbekistan! Friendship Force Knoxville and U.S. District Court Judges Thomas Varlan and Katherine Crytzer of the Eastern District of Tennessee jointly hosted the eight-day Open World program regarding best practices in judicial procedures, comparing systems in Uzbekistan with those in the United States. The Congressional Office for International Leadership, an agency of the U.S. Congress, funded and coordinated the program.

After their arrival on Friday, October 7, the delegates settled in with their individual hosts and had a small taste of local culture. The full program began on Saturday with a day in the Smokies, meeting with officials from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, U. S Attorney’s Office and the U. S. District Court regarding legal issues arising in the in the Park, followed by a picnic lunch and a hike on the Little River Trail. On Sunday, Friendship Force showed the delegation highlights of Knoxville with a river cruise, trip to the Sunsphere, and a visit to the Knoxville Museum of Art.



On Monday, the delegation began a full week of visiting state and federal courts, observing court proceedings, and meeting with various state and federal judges. They met with Knox County and federal prosecutors, public defenders and defense counsel and other attorneys, enforcement representatives and law professors. The delegates also attended classes at the University of Tennessee College of Law and the Lincoln Memorial University College of Law. Mayor Indya Kincannon bestowed honorary city citizenship on each member of the delegation when they met with her. Congressman Tim Burchett, Representative for the 2nd Congressional District in Tennessee, welcomed them and shared his background and how he became active in politics. During all of these meetings, the delegates were assisted by an interpreter who provided simultaneous translation.

Two evening events were true highlights. The first was the informal dinner of dishes provided by Friendship Force members, which included a presentation by the delegation on the history and culture of Uzbekistan and a demonstration of Uzbek dancing. Then on the final night, the Uzbek delegation cooked a traditional Uzbek dinner for all their hosts and Judge Varlan at the home of Marsha and Art Mitchell.



Lead coordinator Betsy Tonkin shared organizational duties with Marsha Mitchell and Courtney Shea. Host families: Ron and Jean Mayer, Jayne Raparelli and Mike McDonough, Rusha and Bert Sams, Marsha and Art Mitchell, Courtney Shea, and Betsy Tonkin. During the stay several FFK members provided small group dinners for delegates and their hosts: Gail Tyson, Jean & Ron Mayer and Bruce & Janis Robinson. Truly a wonderful experience for all who participated!

*Courtney Shea & Betsy Tonkin*

Photo 1: River cruise  
 Photo 2: The 4th floor of the Howard Baker Jr. Courthouse  
 Photo 3: Delegates cook dinner for their hosts.

**Be sure to go to the FFK Facebook page for many more photos of the Uzbekistan experience with us.**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/370256121638808>



**Travel/Friendship Quotations**

“The place between your comfort zone and your dream is where life takes place.” Helen Keller

“There is an unspoken bond you create with the friends you travel with.” Kristen Sarah

“Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together.” Woodrow T. Wilson

“A friend may be waiting behind a stranger’s face.” Maya Angelou

“There’s not a word yet for old friends who’ve just met.” Jim Henson

“Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love.” Mother Teresa

“Travel opens your mind as few other things do. It is its own form of hypnotism, and I am forever under its spell.” Libba Bray, American author



**Upcoming Dates–Mark your calendar**

**Virtual Board Meetings**

- November 7
- December: No board meeting

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

**Upcoming FFK General Events:**

- 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.

**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