



# friendship force

## KNOXVILLE

**“Gateway to Worldwide Friendship”**

Website: [www.Friendshipforceknoxville.org](http://www.Friendshipforceknoxville.org)

**Volume 21, No.10**

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### **Note from the President**

The month of September and the beginning of October provided Noel and me with a much appreciated break as we worked at Yellowstone National Park as *Helping Hands*. It was a true mental health experience with daily exposure to astounding beauty, and an almost total black out of social media and news. We are renewed in our appreciation of the beauty and diversity of the United States. The chronicity of the pandemic has had a toll on the hearts and minds of people from all over the world. We were able to live the essence of the mission of Friendship Force as we interacted with people from all over the United States and the world. The joy was palpable as we experienced the park and interacted (wearing masks) with people from many states and countries. Noel and I completed the “100 mile” hiking challenge during our time at Yellowstone and earned our t-shirts for the effort. This increased the overall wonder of the trip and hopefully will sustain us for the coming months.

Special thanks to Jayne Raparelli and the board for continuing the work of FFK during our travel. I wish each of you a renewed appreciation and wonder of the world. Friendship Force exists so we can experience life and cultures beyond our own and renew our joy and hope.

Blessings to each of you.

*Kaye Bultemeier, president*

### **Note from the Vice-President**

A warm welcome to new FFK members Victoria Creed and Susana Navarro!

Friendship Force of Knoxville has been holding monthly Zoom events during the pandemic when we cannot meet in person. Thanks to everyone who attended the August and September presentations. We have another program planned for this month. It's a way we can stay connected, share our experiences, and learn from one another.

Outgoing and incoming journeys, domestic and international, are scheduled for 2021 and 2022. We'll keep you informed as plans develop.

We recently reached out to FFK members to gauge interest in activities, events, and projects. Thanks to all who responded to our survey either by phone or email. This will help us plan for 2021 and beyond.

Please keep the Napa-Sonoma County Friendship Force Club in your thoughts as wildfires rage in their area. The Napa-Sonoma County Club visited Knoxville last October.

FFK exists because of you--our members. Please let us know how you're doing. Share your ideas on what we can do to stay connected until once again we can again visit and host Friendship Force Clubs here in the U.S. and around the globe.

*Jayne Raparelli, Vice President*

## October 27th General Event

Please join Kaye Bultemeier, Noel Kuck with Al and Joanne Schuetz on Tuesday, October 27th telling us about their recent trip to Iran. Find out more about this ancient and important part of the world. The presentation will begin at 7 p.m. but please feel free to join in this Zoom event starting at 6:30 p.m. to visit with other members.



Topic: Trip to Iran  
Time: Oct 27, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time  
(US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://tinyurl.com/y6h5ngt8>

Meeting ID: 880 3567 2680  
Passcode: 811317

Dial by your location  
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

## Eager to Travel

The journey coordinators will receive shortly the form for outbound journeys in 2022. We are requesting one outbound international to Australia with perhaps the inclusion of New Zealand as a second choice and Colombia/Costa Rica as third choices. For outbound domestic club journeys for 2022, the board agreed to request Columbia Cascades, Albuquerque, and Missoula as

options. We can set up others as needed. The form is due 13 November.

Leslie has contacted again the hosts in San Antonio and in Australia. San Antonio has reconfirmed our visit to them in September 2021 and their visit to us in October 2021. Mike McDonough is added as host coordinator with Jayne Raparelli for San Antonio. Leslie is the ambassador coordinator.

The inbound and outbound journeys are:

- **2021 St Louis, MO Inbound** – A host coordinator is still needed for this journey in April. No word from St. Louis about dates. Contact Kaye Bultemeier, [kayebultemeier@gmail.com](mailto:kayebultemeier@gmail.com).
- **2021 Romania Outbound** – Dates for Romania are June 9-21, 2021. If you have any interest, please contact Diana Lopez, [dlopez@utk.edu](mailto:dlopez@utk.edu).
- **2021 San Antonio Outbound** – No confirmed date yet for our Sept 2021 trip to them. Contact Leslie Badaines, [badainesl@aol.com](mailto:badainesl@aol.com).
- **2021 Napa-Sonoma Outbound** – Date will be set just before or after San Antonio. Contact Jayne Raparelli, [jaynerap@aol.com](mailto:jaynerap@aol.com).
- **2021 San Antonio Inbound** – Date will be set after the outbound journey is settled. Contact Jayne Raparelli, [Jaynerap@aol.com](mailto:Jaynerap@aol.com), and Mike McDonough.
- **2022 Des Moines Inbound** – Des Moines will visit Knoxville in April 2022. Contact Diana Lopez, [dlopez@utk.edu](mailto:dlopez@utk.edu).
- **2022 Australia Outbound** – TBD. Contact Leslie Badaines, [badainesl@aol.com](mailto:badainesl@aol.com).

**Leslie Badaines and Diana Lopez**