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Club Website: www.friendshipforceknoxville.org
FFK on Facebook: Friendship Force of Knoxville
My Friendship Force:
<https://my.friendshipforce.org>
Club E-mail: FFKnoxville@gmail.com

2024 Journey Preview

Outbound FF Hamburg & FF Metropole Ruhr.....	Aug. 13-27
Open World: Mayors of Poland.....	Sept. 27- Oct. 5
Inbound St. Louis, MO	Oct. 24-29

2025 Journey Preview

Inbound FF Los Angeles, CA.....	TBD
Inbound FF Lower Columbia	TBD
Outbound FF E. Washington/N. Idaho (AKA Spokane)	June 2025
Outbound Stratford/St. Mary's, Ontario, Canada,	TBD

**FFK June 25th Meeting
POOLSIDE SEAFOOD DINNER PARTY!**

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED for DINNER

Art and Marsha Mitchell are hosting the June meeting beside their pool at 407 Doublehead Lane. The Shrimp Dock chefs will prepare a Seafood Boil with shrimp, mussels, potatoes and corn, and andouille sausage (prepared and served separately) compliments of the Mitchells. Some beer and wine will be available, but feel free to BYOB.

After dinner Art and Marsha will briefly report on their trip to Uzbekistan where they were escorted around the country by the judge who had come to Knoxville during our Open World program in October 2022 and stayed in their home.

Special guests: Visiting prosecutors from Uzbekistan! Greg Weddle, retired Assistant U.S. Attorney, will also attend. He spent most of his career in Knoxville, and now teaches periodic short courses for prosecutors in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.



Date:**Tuesday, June 25** - Those with mobility issues may park in the driveway, otherwise, please park on the street. Walk all the way up the driveway and go to the pool area.

Time:**5:30 pm** - *If you want to swim before dinner, you may come earlier!* 🏠🏠🏠

Location: .Art & Marsha Mitchell's Backyard, 407 Doublehead Lane, Knoxville, TN 37909

If you want dinner, you must **RSVP** by **FRIDAY, JUNE 21** to Karen Scott, kas491423@gmail.com, or text/phone her at **(810) 515-0780**. If you would like to bring a dessert, let her know.

If you have a shellfish allergy, please contact Marsha Mitchell, globalmarsha@gmail.com or call **865-335-3875** and a substitution will be arranged.

Note from the President

After a busy May that began with hosting ambassadors from the Friendship Force club from Manitoba, Canada, members have begun preparations for upcoming events later this month and into the fall. First, on June 25, Art and Marsha Mitchell are hosting a program meeting with an al fresco dinner at their home with tales of their trip to Uzbekistan last fall when they stayed with the Uzbek judge who was their house guest as a member of the 2022 Open World delegation from Uzbekistan. We will be joined by a group of Uzbek prosecutors (including interpreters) who happen to be in Knoxville that week to learn about criminal prosecutions in the U.S. -- truly a cultural exchange opportunity for FFK members and our guests! See details on page 1.



Many thanks to the Journey Coordinators, especially Leslie Badaines, Karen Scott, Barbara Elder, and Courtney Shea, who have all worked so hard to coordinate their respective responsibilities for the inbound journey for FF Manitoba last month, prepared for the outbound journey in August to FF Hamburg and FF Metropole Ruhr, and made significant progress in plans for the Open World Program for Polish Mayors in September and the inbound journey in October for FF St. Louis. Whew! Busy times ahead! Please reach out to these coordinators to see how you can help.

Betsy Tonkin, President

Programs Planned for 2024



July 23 -- FFK member and acclaimed lecturer, Mike McDonough, will be our July program presenter. Mike is actually writing a book about the life and times of Henry Knox for whom Knoxville is named. He and his trusty traveling companion, Jayne, are taking a 19-day road trip in June to visit several locations on the East coast and in Ohio with connections to Henry Knox. Fortunately for us, Mike will take us along on this interesting journey via visual aids and his always clever narrative. *He makes learning fun!!!*

Date: **Tuesday, July 23**

Time: **11:30 a.m. (Dutch Treat lunch); 12:00 Program begins**

Location: **Asia Cafe, 1708 Callahan Dr., Knoxville, TN**

August – No monthly meeting. Bon Voyage! to the Germany Ambassadors!

September 27- October 5- Open World- Mayors from Poland. **Farewell Dinner is Friday, October 4.**

October 24-29- Inbound ambassadors from St. Louis, MO. **Welcome Dinner is Thursday, October 24.**

Jump ahead –

December 10, 5:30 p.m. - FESTIVE HOLIDAY DINNER PARTY! *It's official!* After receiving overwhelmingly positive responses from the membership, the Board has embraced the notion and given the "go ahead." Location: Holly's Gourmet Market on Kingston Pike (yummiest food ever!). Mark your calendar now!

Marsha Mitchell, Program Chairperson

Your Journeys Start Here

Greetings from Europe. I am currently somewhere between Croatia and Slovenia, and I am driving, so wish me luck! Here is the latest on our club's incoming and outgoing journeys.

2024 Journeys:

Journey # 24064 FFK to FF Hamburg and FF Metropole Ruhr, Germany, August 13-27, 2024: Eight members of FFK are excitedly planning their trip to Germany. I am looking forward to hearing more about it on their return!

Open World, Mayors from Poland, September 27- October 5, 2024. Courtney Shea is busy planning for this visit. So that the mayors can learn as much as possible about our City and County governments. If you would like to assist in some way, please contact her. courtshea@aol.com

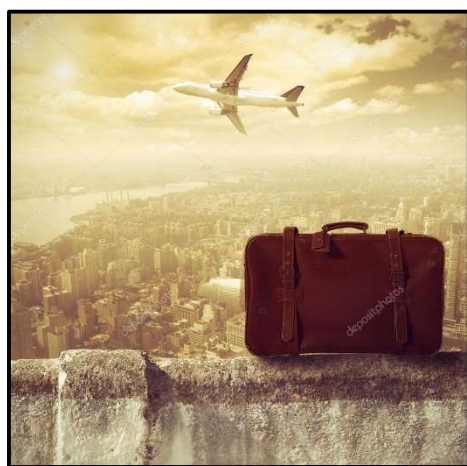


Journey #24159 FF St Louis, Missouri to FFK, October 24-29, 2024. The planning committee has drafted an itinerary which you will be hearing more about once finalized. We are still looking for a few more hosts for this incoming group, plus small group dinner hosts, and day hosts. If you can assist, please contact Host Coordinators Karen Scott, kas491423@gmail.com, or me, badainesL@aol.com.

2025 Journeys:

Journey # 25133 FF Los Angeles to FF Knoxville-date TBD, but most likely Spring of 2025
Host Coordinators needed!

Journey # 20597 FFK to Eastern Washington/Northern Idaho (AKA Spokane), June 2025. Bruce and Janis Robinson are Ambassador Coordinators. It will be great to see our friends from Spokane who visited us in September of 2023.



Journey #25096, FFK to Stratford/St. Mary's, Ontario, Canada, October or September of 2025. Stratford is well known for its Stratford Theater Festival which runs from April through October. Ambassador Coordinator (s) needed!

Lower Columbia, who we visited in July of 2022, has requested a visit to Knoxville in 2025. Our club members who went on this journey loved the area and the very friendly club. We are working on possible dates for either the Spring or Fall of 2025. Once a month is set for this visit, we will be looking for a Host coordinator.

Enjoy the summer, and the June dinner meeting at the Mitchell's with special guests from Uzbekistan. I will be there with you in spirit. Get your reservations in if you haven't done so already.

Leslie Badaines, Journey Coordinator

Travel/Friendship Quotes

“Can we just skip to the part of my life where I travel the world?”
Unknown

“Vacation calories don’t count. Right?” Unknown

“The worst thing about being a tourist is having other tourists recognize you as a tourist.” Russell Baker

“I’ve been to almost as many places as my luggage.” Bob Hope

“We live in a wonderful world that is full of beauty, charm and adventure. There is no end to the adventures we can have if only we seek them with our eyes open.” Jawaharial Nehru

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



2024 Upcoming Dates–Mark your Calendar

Virtual Board Meetings (2nd Tuesday, 2 p.m.)

July 9*	Aug 13	Sept 10
Oct 8	Nov 12	Dec: No meeting

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

*The July 9th board meeting will be in person at The Artisan Cakery at 2 p.m.

Upcoming FFK General Events

- **June 25** – The Mitchell’s visit to Uzbekistan & a Poolside Dinner Party!
- **July 23** - Presentation by Mike McDonough about Henry Knox
- **No August Event** – FFK Ambassadors to Germany
- **No September Event** – Open World is here!
- **October 4** – Farewell Dinner for Open World
- **October 24** – Welcome Dinner for FF St. Louis
- **November 25** – Zoom meeting for 2025 officer election
- **December 10** – FFK Holiday Party

Check newsletter articles about each event for date, time and place details.

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

2024 Club Officers & Chairpersons

Officers:

President:Betsy Tonkin
 Vice President:.....Tammy Enix
 Secretary:Karen Scott
 Treasurer:.....Bill Cherry

Committee Chairpersons:

Program Chairperson:.....Marsha Mitchell
 Membership Chairperson:Tammy Enix
 Journey Coordinator:Leslie Badaines
 Communications Chairperson: ..Janis Robinson
 Club Concerns:Paulette Anderson
 Historian:Karen Swander
 Hospitality Chairperson:.....OPEN POSITION

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