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2024 Journey Preview

Inbound Manitoba, Canada.....	May 1-8
Outbound FF Hamburg.....	Aug. 13-27
Open World: Mayors of Poland.....	Sept. 27- Oct. 5
Inbound St. Louis, MO	Oct. 24-29

Club Website: www.friendshipforceknoxville.org
FFK on Facebook: Friendship Force of Knoxville
My Friendship Force: <https://my.friendshipforce.org>

FFK April 23rd MONTHLY MEETING

Learn about Bridge Refugee Services - a local non-profit agency that has been providing opportunities since 1982 for refugees to rebuild their lives after suffering persecution and to become productive members of our community. Peter Green, Volunteer and Co-Sponsorship Manager of Bridge, will tell us about the important work Bridge does in working with community partners to help refugees grow and thrive in their new homes. Betsy Tonkin will share her experiences as a Bridge volunteer learning about refugees and their cultures.

Date: Tuesday April 23, 2024

Time: 6:30 p.m. for social
7 p.m. for the program

Location: Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church (TVUUC)
2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919

Sparkling water, iced tea and light snacks will be provided.



Note from the President

Spring has sprung in Friendship Force Knoxville! FFK members enjoyed a delightful program in historic Dandridge March 26 - a delicious lunch and visit in the lovely Shepard Inn followed by a walking tour of downtown historic sites led by Bob Jarnigan, the official Historian and lifelong resident of Dandridge. Despite the rainy weather, all had a wonderful time. Thanks to Program Chair Marsha Mitchell who made all the arrangements!



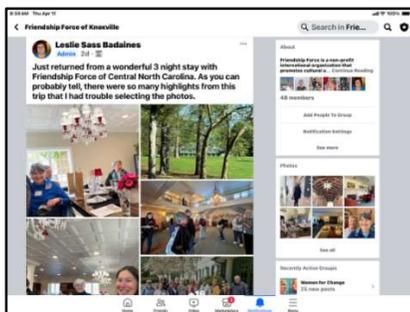
April 4-7, five FFK members made new friends in our outbound journey to Friendship Force of Central North Carolina which including a wine tasting at a winery in Mocksville, museums and history tours, welcome dinner in Winston-Salem, and museums and a Jewish Festival in Greensboro. All had a wonderful time! As always, Journey Coordinator Leslie Badaines worked well with FFCNC to ensure all went smoothly. Please check out the great photos from both on FFK's Facebook page!

Details for our April 23 program meeting are on page 1 and information about our upcoming Inbound Journey from Manitoba, Canada May 1-8, is on page 5.

Another reminder - if you have not yet responded to the membership survey sent to you in January and again in February, or otherwise volunteered to serve on a FFK committee, please contact VP/Membership Chair Tammy Enix (tke618@gmail.com) ASAP to let her know what you are willing to do. The Friendship Force team needs your help!

Betsy Tonkin, President

Check it out! FFK has a Facebook Page



Did you know? Friendship Force Knoxville has a Facebook page! Our FB page is a private group page that can only be accessed by members and guests who are approved by FFK administrators -- currently Leslie Badaines and Betsy Tonkin. Next month new member Liz Gregor will be joining as co-administrator for our group page. Only the administrators can post on the page, but all members can see the posts and comment on them. Photos of inbound and outbound journeys are posted as well as programs and announcements. If you have a FB account and want to join the private FB page to follow our activities, please join!

To join: Open FB, enter Friendship Force Knoxville in the "search" box at the top of the page. At FFK's cover page, click option to "join group." You will then see a message advising that your membership to the FB page is pending. FFK Administrators for the page will receive an email asking to approve. If you are a current FFK member, a member of another FF club that we have visited or hosted, or someone we know who has expressed interest in joining FFK, you will be approved and have access, usually within a day or two.

Betsy Tonkin, President

Liz Gregor will be joining as co-administrator

In Memoria: Wanda June Rogers



Former long-term FFK member Wanda Rogers passed peacefully on February 25, 2024.

Wanda and husband LeRoy were active members of Friendship Force Knoxville traveling the world as ambassadors, hosting visitors from other clubs as well as hosting dinners and attending programs. A lover of hiking and spending time outdoors, Wanda could often be found in the Great Smoky Mountains photographing what she saw. Wanda's full obituary is at: <https://www.knoxnews.com/obituaries/pokr0746519>

A Look Ahead at FFK 2024 Programming

May 2 – Potluck Welcome Dinner for Manitoba Ambassadors:

Our Ambassadors from Friendship Force Manitoba will be here soon. In place of our regular monthly meeting, we will have a potluck welcome dinner for them instead and all are invited. If you plan to attend the welcome dinner on May 2 (6:30 at TVUUC) and have not already responded to Karen Scott regarding what you will bring, please do so at kas491423@gmail.com or text/phone (810) 515-0780. Come and make our visitors feel welcome.



June 25 - POOL PARTY! 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 potatoes and corn compliments of the Mitchells. After dinner they 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 the Mitchell's home. *Please RSVP to Karen Scott, kas491423@gmail.com, or text/phone (810) 515-0780.* If you would like to bring a dessert, let her know.

We need your feedback ASAP:

December 10, at 5:30 pm - HOLIDAY DINNER! Your diligent Program Committee members, Jayne Raparelli, Karen Scott, Jean Mayer and I think we should have a holiday meal this year. We know that venues for dinner are hard to find if you don't book early. So, we have tentatively booked Holly's Gourmet Market on Kingston Pike for our Holiday Party this year. Jean knows firsthand how good the food and venue is for a private party. We would have the place to ourselves!



To make this work, we need a lot of you to sign up, and invite prospects and friends of FFK. The cost will be around \$30-\$35 per person for a very special buffet. **If you support this idea, please email me as soon as possible at globalmarsha@gmail.com, or text/call 865-335-3875.** If enough members respond favorably, we will work on the details. If you like, check out the Catering Menu for Dinner: https://gourmetsmarketandcafe.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Catering-Menu_Dinner.pdf. **Are you in?**

Marsha Mitchell, Program Chairperson

FFK's Journey to FF Central North Carolina Plus Rest of 2024

Journey#24310: Five of us have just returned from a delightful three-night journey to FF Central North Carolina. We started the journey at a local winery where we were met by CNC Friendship Force hosts and some club members. It was a perfect way to start off the weekend! Day two was spent in Winston Salem where we visited Reynolda House and Museum, the former home of tobacco magnate RJ Reynolds,



followed by lunch and a tour of the historic Moravian village of Old Salem, and a potluck welcome dinner at a local church. Day three was spent in Greensboro at the International Civil Rights Center and Museum, at the site of the first sit-in in 1960. Small group dinners and some other events made it a fully packed but fun-filled weekend. It was great getting to meet with a nearby club!

Journey #24131: May 1-8, 2024, FF Manitoba, Canada to Knoxville. We have an exciting itinerary planned for the 8 ambassadors from Canada AND for the many members who plan to attend. See the article on page three (3) for details about the potluck welcome dinner on May 2.

Journey #24064: Eight ambassadors from FFK will be heading to Germany to FF Hamburg and FF Metropole Ruhr this August for two weeks! Barbara Elder is the coordinator.

Open World - Mayors from Poland: Courtney Shea is coordinating this event. She and Betsy Tonkin have begun planning the activities for our guests. If you'd like to assist, please contact Courtney (courtshea@aol.com).

Journey #24159: FF St. Louis, Missouri to Knoxville, October 24-29, 2024. Please let Leslie know if you will be available to coordinate this incoming journey, host, day host, or host a small group dinner. (badainesL@aol.com)

Leslie Badaines, Journey Coordinator

Great Day Trip on March 26 Day to Dandridge, TN

On March 26th, sixteen FFK members enjoyed a tasty lunch and informative tour of the Shepard Inn in Dandridge, TN. Afterward Bob Jarnigan, the official Dandridge Historian and lifelong resident, conducted an easy walking tour of the other downtown historic sites. While it was a rainy day, the attendees enjoyed seeing this city and the fellowship of a meal together. Enjoy these photos of the day.



Shepard Inn



Delicious lunch



- L to R at main table: Bill Cherry, Gary & Paulette Anderson, Betsy Tonkin, Art Mitchell;
- L to R at table by clock: Ray Simko, Karen Setzfand



- L to R at other side of main table: Phyllis Driver, Sonja DuBois, Leslie Badaines;
- L to R at table by wall: Ron Mayer, Jean Mayer Martha Mitchell



L to R: Barbara Elder, Karen Scott & Carol Ann Johnson



L to R: Tammy Enix, Mike McDonough, Jayne Raparelli



Umbrella Day in Dandridge at the Revolutionary War Graveyard



Guide Bob Jarnigan



Revolutionary War Graveyard



Jefferson County Courthouse



Travel/Friendship Quotes

“New strangers on other paths await.
 New places that have never seen you
 Will startle a little at your entry.
 Old places that know you well
 Will pretend nothing
 Changed since your last visit.”
 From *For the Traveler* by John O'Donohue



“Good company on a journey makes the way seem shorter.” *Izaak Walton*

“You can pack for every occasion, but a good friend will always be the best thing you could bring!”
Unknown

“We all have that one friend who is either on a road-trip or planning a road-trip or thinking about a road-trip or talking to people who are on road-trip or posting quotes about road-trip.” *Crestless Wave*

“Wherever it is you may be, it is your friends who make your world.” *Chris Bradford*

“When traveling life’s journey, it’s good to have a friend’s hand to hold on to.” *Unknown*

2024 Upcoming Dates–Mark your Calendar

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

May 14	June 11	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.

Upcoming FFK General Events

- April 23: Bridge Refugee Services at TVUUC
- May 1-8: Inbound Manitoba Journey in lieu of a monthly program
- May 2: Welcome dinner potluck at TVUUC for Manitoba

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

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