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2026 Journeys

Important Dates

Outbound to Tallahassee: Departing March 1
Inbound from Connecticut: April 17 - April 22
Outbound to Taupo and Southland, New Zealand
Nov 1-14

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

Upcoming Presentation Tuesday, Feb 24th at 11:30am @ TVUUC



Join us at 11:30am. Presentation will begin at 12 noon.

Bruce and Janis Robinson will share videos of their trip last summer through the red-rock canyons and wild trails around Moab, Utah.

“Jeeping Through the Wilds of Moab!” An Armchair Adventure You Won’t Forget 

Fasten your seatbelts (or grab your chair seats)! Join Bruce and Janis Robinson for a thrilling ride through the red-rock canyons and wild trails around **Moab, Utah**—all without leaving the comfort of the TVUUC. You'll splash through **37 creek crossings on Onion Creek**, peer over the dizzying edges of **Shafer Canyon**, and rattle along **Long Canyon, Gemini Bridges, Hurrah Pass**, and more. There will be stunning videos, jaw-dropping photos, and a few stories that might make you glad *you're not the one driving the Jeep*. Come along for the bumps, laughs, and breathtaking scenery—no helmet or insurance waiver required!

March 24 Journey coordinator Karen Scott, along with the other Ambassadors, will give their report on their trip to Stratford - St. Mary's in Canada, September, 2025. Join us at 6:30pm for a 7pm start at TVUUC.

April FFK will be hosting the inbound group from Connecticut April 17-22, so no formal meeting. **Please contact Leslie if you can volunteer to serve as a host, driver or small dinner host**

May 26 Journey coordinator Carol Ann and fellow Ambassadors will present their report on their journey to Tallahassee, FL in March at TVUUC at 6:30pm for a 7pm start

June 6 A Saturday visit to the Flatware Tales storytelling festival in Oak Ridge. More details soon

Travel/Friendship Quotes

*"To move, to breathe, to fly, to float,
To gain all while you give,
To roam the roads of lands remote,
To travel is to live." ~Hans Christian Andersen*

"Life is short and the world is wide." Unknown

"Live life with no excuses, travel with no regret." Oscar Wilde



"It seems that the more places I see and experience, the bigger I realize the world to be. The more I become aware of, the more I realize how relatively little I know of it, how many places I have still to go, how much more there is to learn."

Anthony Bourdain

"It doesn't matter where you are going. It matters who is beside you." Anonymous

"We leave something of ourselves behind when we leave a place, we stay there, even though we go away. And there are things in us that we can find again only by going back there." Pascal Mercier, Night Train to Lisbon

Friendship Force Journeys, 2026



Outbound: March 1st FF Knoxville to FF Tallahassee, Florida

On March 1, six ambassadors will depart for the (hopefully) warmer climate of the Florida Panhandle, and the capital city of the State of Florida. Two members of FF Greater Des Moines, Iowa will be joining this journey. Carol Ann is serving as Ambassador Coordinator.

Inbound: April 17-22 - FF Connecticut to FF Knoxville

Arriving on April 17 and departing April 22, nine ambassadors plan to visit us from Connecticut. **Note: We are still in need of day hosts/drivers for this group. Please contact Leslie Badaines or Joan Turbyville if you are willing to assist.**

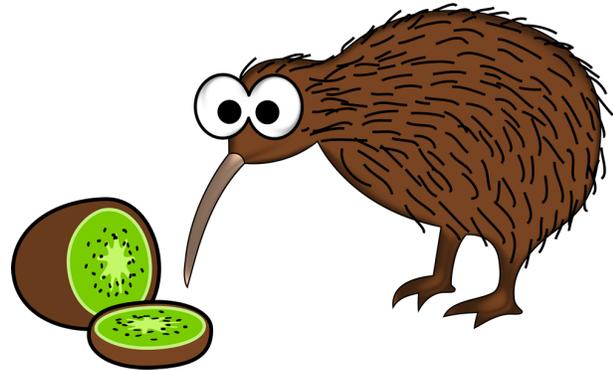
The committee for this incoming journey met to set the itinerary, which will include: a welcome dinner at Highland Point Clubhouse with southern fried chicken to be provided by the club and club members asked to provide sides or desserts; a city tour and visit to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame; a free day; Oak Ridge Tour (with the possibility of an afternoon at the Museum of Appalachia); a visit to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park; and a Farewell dinner at the Abbey in Townsend. Members are invited to attend all events. Information regarding member costs will be available at a later date.

Outbound: November 1-14 – Southland and Taupo, New Zealand

Currently, the dates of the journey will be FF Southland: arriving November 1- departing November 7 and FF Taupo: arriving November 9 - departing November 15.

Leslie has contacted the travel agent used by the Greater Atlanta Club to discuss the possibility of a 5 day optional pre-tour of the South Island October 27-November 1 (with transportation to the Southland club on November 1), and possible options for touring 2-3 days upon arrival in Auckland if there is interest (this might include a visit to the Hobbiton, the replica of the Lord of the Rings set.) These optional tours would not be a requirement, but might be a nice opportunity to see more of the Country. The host clubs can accept 12 Ambassadors. Please let Leslie know if you are interested in this journey (badainesL@aol.com)

Leslie and Joan



Updated Membership Directory

Please take a look at the email membership directory recently sent out by Marsha and let her know of any changes/updates. The current FFK membership count totals 37, including 2 honorary, 2 joint, and 3 out-of-town members, resulting in 30 active local members.

