



friendship force

KNOXVILLE

“Gateway to Worldwide Friendship”

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General Membership Meeting and Program

The General Meeting of the members of Friendship Force Knoxville will be held on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 6:30 p.m.

The Church is located at 2931 Kingston Pike. The Church is on the right side of Kingston Pike if you are going west – away from downtown. It is between Second Presbyterian Church and The Teen Center. There will be plenty of parking.

Social time and Snacks at 6:30 p.m.

Members with surnames between A and K are asked to bring snacks or finger foods.

Program at the General Meeting

Diana Lopez and Sandy Kehne will be presenting a program about their recent individual visits to Galapagos Island.

Also plan to attend this meeting because final plans for our upcoming inbound

Journey from Calgary, Alberta Canada will be shared with the club.

Mark your calendars now for their visit. They will be arriving on Tuesday, October 17th. We will be welcoming them with one of our famous pot-luck dinners. Members will be asked to bring a variety of salads, entrées, vegetables and desserts. The club will provide beverages.

Come join us and bring a friend

Board Meeting and Calgary Exchange Meeting

This meeting will be on Wednesday, September 13th at The Egg and I on Kingston Pike at 11:30 a.m. It's an open meeting, so everyone is welcome. All home-hosts are encouraged to attend.

Note from Our President

Ms. Ghada Ayesh from the Annoor Academy along her two daughters, Surraiyah (6 yrs. old) and Leena (18 yrs. old), spoke with us at the June 20 meeting. There was a small attendance, but those of us there gained much insight into what it is like growing up in Knoxville as a Muslim.

Everyone sat around the table and listened to her story, coming from refugee parents, born and raised in Knoxville, teaching and running the Annoor Academy started by her mother and now an advocate for the Muslim community in Knoxville. Ms. Ayesh invited our members to visit the Mosque, so perhaps the club can schedule a time to go. It was an interesting and informative evening.

Our summer picnic at Metcalf Bottoms on July 13 was quite a success: good food and great company. Whether you took a hike, sat by the stream or ate and talked, it was the perfect time to enjoy it. Thanks to all who participated.

The board suggested that we accept one inbound journey for 2019, preferably in the fall. I submitted the form by the deadline in August, and we will learn if anyone selects us in mid-February. The outbound journey request form is due in November, so we'll talk more about that at the next meeting on September 19th.

We are also well into the plans for hosting our inbound journey by the Calgary club on October 17th through 23rd. Hosts have been selected and activities narrowed down. It will be a fun time, and everyone should join in.

We are also planning a journey to La Serena in November 2018 with the Raleigh club.

More information will be forthcoming on that journey next year.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting is September 19th. Sandy Kehne and I will be talking about our respective trips to the Galapagos. Please come and join us.

I returned home on September 9th. As always, if you have any suggestions or ideas for the club, please feel free to share those with me. My email is dlopez@utk.edu, tel. # 865 223 4036.

Diana Lopez

CALGARY's COMING

The Calgary ambassadors will be arriving in Knoxville on October 17th and will remain with us until October 23.

The week's schedule of events for the ambassadors is contained in this newsletter. Please review the schedule and see if you can attend those events that would allow you to meet the ambassadors and also enjoy that activity. We encourage all club members to come to the opening welcoming dinner (pot luck) and bring your favorite dish. This will give you an opportunity to meet and talk with our Canadian Ambassadors.

If you **are not** home hosting, dinner hosting or day hosting for this "journey" and want to come to the farewell dinner and/or the paddle boat tour please contact Sandy Kehne or Jim Dennis via e-mail or telephone of your attendance so they can add your name to the list.

The cutoff date for attendance notification and payment for these events is October 3rd.

There will be a charge of \$47 per person for the paddle boat (includes a 3-hour boat tour with dinner and music). The farewell dinner cost will be \$29 per person. There are other events on certain days that will have lunch and admission fees that will be listed in a future newsletter to you.

The committee is looking for dinner hosts. You would be providing an evening meal for 3 or 4 individuals (home hosts and their Ambassadors). A sign-up sheet with the names of home hosts and their Ambassadors will be distributed on Tuesday, September 19th.

Calgary Exchange Schedule

October 17th, Tuesday - Arrival and Welcome Pot-Luck Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

October 18th, Wednesday-Knoxville Mayor's welcome, downtown tours and lunch.

October 19th, Thursday-Dollywood visit

October 20th, Friday-Smoky Mountain Tour, picnic lunch at Metcalf Bottoms and shopping in Gatlinburg or Pigeon Forge.

October 21st, Saturday- Visit the Green McAdoo Museum, lunch at Golden Girls, Visit Lenoir Museum and Grist Mill. Star of Knoxville Riverboat tour with Dinner that evening.

October 22, Sunday-Free morning with an afternoon visit to American Museum of Science and Energy. The Farewell Dinner will be at Calhoun's on the River in Oak Ridge.

October 23rd, Monday, Ambassadors depart.

The Greek Fest

Don't forget to attend the St. George's Greek Orthodox Church annual Greek Fest to enjoy the wonderful food and pastries.

This year it will be held on Friday, September 15th and Saturday, September 16th between 11:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Sunday hours September 17th will be between 11:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

FFI 40th Anniversary Campaign

Dear fellow Friendship Force members,

I'm reaching out to you today as a fellow member of this organization that we love. As a member of the Adelaide, Australia club for 24 years, club leader, Journey Coordinator, and now a member of the Board of Directors, I have certainly experienced the many benefits of belonging to Friendship Force - as I know we all have.

I write today to first say thank you to all of our members and leaders worldwide who support Friendship Force by participating in your local clubs, traveling on or leading Journeys, hosting, and engaging others to participate in our mission in daily life

and on your travels. Without our dedicated members, Friendship Force would not have been able to succeed for the last 40 years, and we as members are absolutely necessary to lead our organization into the next 40 years as well.

Friendship Force has recently launched [the 40th Anniversary Campaign](#) with support of the Board of Directors, and I want to encourage your participation. This comprehensive effort is designed to better support and grow our clubs, invest in new programs to spread our mission to a younger generation, and invite others around the world to join us in making the world a friendlier and more peaceful place. In the video above, you've heard the many reasons I believe we each must support this initiative. However, I also want to outline some specific ideas I had for ways we can each raise funds and contribute to the campaign:

- Imagine if each of our 15,000 members worldwide donated just \$10. That would allow us to raise \$150,000 and would be an easy way to participate in the campaign. Then imagine that everyone decided instead to donate just \$20 each - that

total would increase to \$300,000!

- Individuals can choose to make a recurring donation of \$10 or \$25 each month. That would end up being a tremendous donation that wouldn't take that much out of our monthly budgets.
- Many clubs around the world have some money in the bank saved for a "rainy day." If clubs even donated a portion of those funds, it would build up the contributions to the campaign very quickly.
- If making a personal donation does not work for you, there are other ways to raise funds for the campaign! Our club, the Friendship Force of Adelaide, hosted a cocktail party fundraiser and raised \$550 USD (\$750 AUD). It was easy to put together, and everyone had a fantastic time.
- Clubs can also hold raffles. Whether one big raffle to raise a large sum or multiple small raffles over time - it all adds up!

I hope that each of us can find a way to support Friendship Force's 40th Anniversary Campaign as we work to

strengthen and expand our organization. This initiative and your participation will allow even more friendships to be made to promote more understanding across the divisions that separate us in the world today. If you or your club would like to contribute to the 40th Anniversary Campaign, [click here](#), or email ceo@friendshipforce.org to learn more.

In friendship as a fellow FFI member,



Bobbie Mulholland, *FFI Board of Directors & FF Adelaide*

JOURNEYS

FFK INCOMING JOURNEY

Calgary, Canada Journey:

The dates for the Calgary Journey to Knoxville are October 17-23, 2017.

FFK OUTBOUND JOURNEY

International Exchange Preview

We have received a preliminary inquiry from FFI about the possibility that we would be interested in a journey to La Serena, Chile in 2018. This possibility is being actively pursued and information will be passed on to members as it develops

Other FFI Journeys

Perth, Mount Gambier and Murray Ridge, Australia

November 6- December 1, 2017

Experience the generosity, kindness, and international friendliness of three Australian Friendship Force clubs, each for a week, and then enjoy two days of tours with FF Adelaide and possibly Melbourne.

Sandhill Crane Capital of the World Lincoln, Nebraska

March 17 – March 24, 2018

Be a part of the Great Migration to the Platte River of Nebraska! Each spring, the open sky is filled with millions of flapping wings and a chorus of calls as more than 80 percent of the world's population of Sandhill Cranes converge in the Heart Of The Great Plains - Nebraska's Platte River Valley. Migration between wintering grounds in the south and breeding grounds in the north (Canada, Alaska, Eastern Siberia) has likely taken Sandhill Cranes across what is now Nebraska for many thousands, if not millions, of years. The stopover provides the needed nourishment to continue their journey to the northern breeding grounds.

FFI 40th Anniversary Cruise

April 22 – May 10, 2018

This *Festival at Sea* voyage is much more than just a great transatlantic crossing, with stops in Bermuda and the Azores. It is a full European journey, visiting London, Normandy, Belgium, and Amsterdam before arriving in Copenhagen - six countries in all. You'll experience the full range of Northern Europe from the comfort of a premier cruise ship on the Holland America line. Friendship Force Journeys are always more than social events, although there will be plenty on this route. Our Journeys are about

proving that a world of friends can be a world of peace. Building on last year's successful *Celebration at Sea*, this route boasts ten days at sea where Friendship Force programs will cover a wide range of friend-building activities, workshops, and talks about the future of our growing organization. Join us aboard the [ms Zuiderdam](#).

Visit Vietnam

April 11 – April 28, 2018

Join your new friends in the Vietnam-USA Society on this wonderful Journey that brings you straight to the heart of Vietnam and its people! Attend cultural workshops and demonstrations, enjoy cultural music and art performances, and experience daily life in Vietnam with four nights of home-hosting.

For more information and details on these and other Journeys go to

Friendship Force International

The Journey Catalogues for FFI (friendshipforce.org) are also a source of journeys planned for the future.

Birthday & Anniversary Wishes

The Members of the Club send best wishes:

For July Birthdays to:

Ron DuBois
Ron Mayer
Wanda Rogers
Laura Ford
Joanne Hayden
Layla Mishu

For August Birthdays to:

Sandy Kehne
Diana Lopez

For September Birthdays to:

Carolyn Dougall
Ray Simko
Susan Dakak

August Anniversary Wishes go to:

Ely and Phyllis Driver
Panos & Renee Ioannides
Doug McCain and Joanne Hayden