



friendship force  
KNOXVILLE



**Founded May 16, 1981**

**Celebrating**

**40 Years of Friendship**

**1981 – 2021**

**Changing the Way You See the World**





**friendship force**  
KNOXVILLE

**Holiday & 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event**

**Saturday, December 11, 2021**

**Gathering at 1:30 p.m.**

**Program at 2:00 p.m.**

**Highland Point Clubhouse**

**7912 High Heath**

**Knoxville, TN 37919**

**(Off Westland Drive)**

**Finger Foods and Beverages Provided**

# **Friendship Force of Knoxville**

**Founded May 16, 1981**

**For more than 40 years Friendship Force of Knoxville has served the people of East Tennessee. Hundreds of individuals have participated in outbound journeys to other Friendship Force clubs both domestically and internationally.**

**Members of FFK have also welcomed and opened their homes to domestic and international Ambassadors from other clubs sharing with them the sites and beauty of East Tennessee.**

**The past half decade has proven to be most challenging for FFK. In late 2019 a Novel-Virus spread from China across the world coming to be known as COVID-19. This pandemic caused the death of thousands worldwide as well as in the United States.**

**On March 24, 2020, a National Emergency was declared in the United States resulting in businesses closing and loss of employment for thousands. Only “Essential Workers” which included first responders and healthcare employees were permitted to continue working. Ordinary citizens were restricted to only visiting grocery stores and pharmacies. As restrictions were gradually lifted, the Center for Disease Control recommended masks to be worn in public and social distancing be maintained. Frequent washing of hands was encouraged to protect yourself and others from spreading the virus.**

**As the virus continued to spread, the government ordered pharmaceutical houses to begin intensive work to develop a vaccine to help stop the spread of this deadly virus. Three vaccines were developed in record time and approved by the FDA in late 2020 and early 2021. All individuals over the age of**

**18 were encouraged to be vaccinated. By the end of 2021, the vaccine was approved for children from 5 to 18.**

**FFK postponed all inbound and outbound journeys for 2020 and continued the restrictions until September of 2021.**

**Throughout the pandemic FFK continued to have both Board Meetings and Club events and programs via Zoom.**

**Now with approved vaccines being available all FFK members participating in any FFK event or Journey must be fully vaccinated. Any Friendship Force Ambassadors from other clubs visiting FFK must also be fully vaccinated.**

**FFK now has several inbound and outbound Journeys scheduled for 2022. The club is looking forward to returning to a more normal state of operation soon**

## 2021 OFFICERS, BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**President:** .....Jayne Raparelli

**Vice President:** .....Betsy Tonkin

**Secretary:**.....Barbara Elder

**Treasurer:**.....Bruce Robinson

**Past President:**.....Kaye Bultemeier

**Communications Committee Chair:** .....Janis Robinson

**Website**.....Ray Simko

**Newsletter** .....Janis Robinson

**Hospitality Chair:** .....Sandy Kehne

**Program and Membership Co-chairs:** ..... Betsy Tonkin &

.....Helen Bachrach

**Club Concerns:** .....Renee Ioannides

**Historian:** .....Jonathan Hash

**Journey Co-coordinators:** .....Diana Lopez &

.....Leslie Badaines

**Ambassador (outbound) Coordinators:**

**Napa-Sonoma (September 2021)** .....Jayne Raparelli &

    .....Mike McDonough

**San Antonio (October 2021)**.....Leslie Badaines

**Australia (Oct. 2022)**.....Leslie Badaines

**Host (inbound) Coordinators:**

**Des Moines (April 2022)** .....Mike McDonough

**St. Louis (September 2022)** .....Phyllis Driver

**Lower Columbia (June/ 2022)** .....Barbara Elder

**Open World Coordinator: Uzbekistan (2022).**Betsy Tonkin

# Friendship Force International

## Recognition



**On behalf of the worldwide organization, Friendship Force International is proud to congratulate the Friendship Force of Knoxville, Tennessee on the fortieth anniversary of your founding. We appreciate your steadfast dedication to the mission of promoting understanding across the barriers that separate people, and we wish you many more years of success.**

*Jeremi Snook*, President

**August 15, 2021**

## **A Historical Account**

**A story appeared in the News Sentinel on March 2, 1977, describing a new Journey program to send Americans on trips abroad and bring foreigners to the United States --- a program called The Friendship Force. The idea stemmed from a journey program President Carter and his wife developed while he was Governor of Georgia with Journeys between Georgians and Brazilians. Their motto was “A world of friends is a world of peace.”**

**The story caught the attention of Knoxvilleian Aileen Caldwell and Carolyn Wilson who were just as excited about the concept. They gathered like-minded friends together and planted the seed for a Club in Knoxville.**

**In January 1981 Stanley Humphries, the Executive Director of Friendship Force International spoke at a luncheon at Club LeConte. After this luncheon interested persons met several times in the City/County Building. Since this was a temporary arrangement, Ms. Wilson was able to secure a permanent meeting place at the Second Presbyterian Church on Kingston Pike.**

**In 1981 the club’s first outbound Journey took place with the Friendship Force of Western North Carolina to Hamburg, Germany. Language lessons and workshops were held to provide the Ambassadors with knowledge about the culture and the people they were going to visit.**

**By 1982 there were 110 members. Beginning with these early Journeys, members volunteered to make each Journey a success.**

**As of 2021, Friendship Force of Knoxville has been in existence for 40 years. During that time members have hosted many inbound clubs from all over the world including hosting the guests from around the world who participated in the Open World projects. The club has also participated in many outbound Journeys to all parts of the world, including some in the United States.**

**By joining hands to make friends all over the world and promote peace and good will, we hope to truly make a difference.**



## Presidents

1981-82	Aileen Caldwell	1998	Tom Bush
1983	Claude Haws	1999-00	Jim Dennis
1984	William Grieve	2001-02	Roger Frye
1985-86	Robert Ebinger	2003-04	Grant Stradley
1986-88	Robert Young	2005-07	Joanne Schuetz
1988-1989	Gordon Ford	2008-09	Phyllis Driver
1990-91	Byrl Logan	2010-13	Joanne Schuetz
1992	Letha Dixon	2014-15	Panos Ioannides
1993	Betty Rose	2016-19	Diana Lopez
1994	Hugh Sells	2020	Kaye Bultemeier
1995	William Grieve	2021	Jayne Raparelli
1996-97	Fritzie Logan		

**Over the past 40 years these men and women have stepped up contributing not just their time and talents, but more importantly their ideas and suggestions to make FFK what it is today.**

## **Journeys, Missions, Festivals and Domestic Visits**

**Friendship Force came into existence as an organization to give individuals an opportunity for Americans to visit foreign countries and bring foreigners to the United States. Today there are 350 clubs in 60 countries with thousands of members world-wide.**

**Over the past 40 years FFK members have crossed the world from Mongolia to Peru and New Zealand to Ireland. Many members have also traveled with other clubs working through Friendship Force International matching their travel with those of others.**

### **Outbound Journeys:**

#### **to the Asian Region:**

**1982 Seoul, Korea**

**1988 Kaohsiung, Taiwan**

**1990 China Mission**

**1997 FFI “Summer in Siberia Around the World Tour”**

**2001 Nagasaki & Kumamoto, Japan**

**2003 FFI National Exchange - People and Culture of Northern India**

**2004 FFI National Exchange- People and Culture of Southern India**

**2009 FFI National Exchange – Discover Mongolia**

**Outbound Journeys (Continued):**

**to the Canadian Region:**

**2014 Calgary, Alberta Province**

**to Europe and Eurasia Region**

**1981 Hamburg, West Germany**

**1983 Guilford, England**

**1987 Hamburg, West Germany**

**1989 Yugoslavia Mission**

**1991 Dublin, Ireland**

**1992 FFI Italy, Sweetheart Exchange**

**1993 West Sussex & Newcastle Upon Tyne, England**

**1994 Krems, Austria**

**1996 Herne, Germany**

**1997 Bratislava, Slovakia & Chemnitz, Germany**

**1998 Nord, Netherlands**

**2000 Pau, France**

**2001 Devon, England**

**2002 Szekesfehervar, Hungary**

**2006 Chemnitz, Germany**

**2009 Kiev, Ukraine, visit to Poland and Lviv, Ukraine**

**2015 Pau, France**

## **Outbound Journeys (Continued):**

### **to Latin-America Region:**

- 1984 San Paulo, Brazil**
- 1992 Curitiba, Brazil**
- 1992 Tuxtla, Chiapas, Mexico Festival**
- 1994 Acapulco, Mexico**
- 1995 Costa Rica**
- 1996 Trujillo, Peru**
- 2001 FFI Cuba, Special Mission**
- 2003 Alajuela, Costa Rica**  
**Sao Miguel Do Iguacu and Santa Angelo, Brazil**
- 2006 FFI Humanitarian Mission to Cuba**
- 2018 La Serena, Chile**

### **to Mideast and Africa Region:**

- 1985 Kiriati Ono, Israel**
- 1998 FFI Iran**
- 2007 FFI National Exchange – Discover Morocco**
- 2009 FFI National Exchange – Discover Morocco**

### **to South Pacific Region:**

- 1986 Wellington, New Zealand**
- 1993 Napier, Kapiti Coast, New Zealand**
- 1999 Tamworth, Australia**
- 2005 Rotorua and Whangarei, New Zealand**

## **Outbound Journeys(Continued)**

### **to United States Region:**

- 1994 Spokane and Kelso, Washington**
- 1999 Dayton, Ohio**
- 2000 San Antonio, Texas**
- 2006 Albuquerque, New Mexico**
- 2006 Charlotte and Winston-Salem, North Carolina**
- 2007 Lake Hartwell, Georgia**
- 2009 Charlotte, North Carolina**
- 2011 Shelby, North Carolina**
- 2013 Raleigh, North Carolina**
- 2014 Northeast Ohio**
- 2019 Des Moines, IA**
- 2021 Napa-Sonoma, CA**
- 2021 San Antonio, TX**

**Members have traveled throughout the United States and various foreign countries meeting people and learning about the cultures of the various places they visited.**

**Through inbound Journeys from domestic and foreign cultures Friendship Force of Knoxville also had the opportunity to show off the beauty of East Tennessee and The Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Foreign visitors and Friendship Force members from across the United States were also introduced to the culture of East Tennessee by hosting many clubs over the past 40 years.**

## **Inbound Journeys:**

- 1985 San Paulo, Brazil**
- 1987 Hamburg, Germany**
- 1988 Derbyshire, England**
- 1999 Koahsiung, Taiwan**  
**Kirghizia, Russia**
- 1991 Sydney, Australia**
- 1992 Dublin, Ireland**  
**Cali, Columbia**
- 1993 Wolfsburg, Germany**
- 1994 Tuxtla Chiapas, Mexico**
- 1995 Spokane, Washington**
- 1996 Herne & Hanover, Germany**  
**Hobart, Tasmania, Australia**  
**Trujillo, Peru**
- 1997 Newcastle Upon Tyne, England**
- 1998 Hanover, Germany**
- 2000 Russian Leadership Program**  
**Rio De Janeiro, Brazil**
- 2001 San Antonio, Texas**
- 2002 Coromandel and Thames, New Zealand**  
**Lugansk, Ukraine**
- 2003 Southern Colorado**
- 2005 Dayton, Ohio**  
**Western North Carolina**  
**Mount Baker & Salisbury, South Australia**  
**Open World with Russian Ambassadors**
- 2006 Seattle – Tacoma, Washington**  
**Western North Carolina**
- 2007 Azerbaijan, England & United States following FFI**  
**Conference in Atlanta**

## **Inbound Journeys (Continued):**

- 2008 Southeast Regional Conference Attendees after  
Conference in Gatlinburg, Tennessee**
- 2009 Open World with Russian Ambassadors  
Lake Hartwell, Georgia**
- 2010 Open World with Indonesian Students**
- 2011 Nagasaki, Japan  
Open World Social Issues & Health Care**
- 2012 North Bay, Ontario Canada  
Northeast Ohio**
- 2013 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada  
Western Kentucky**
- 2014 Open World Women Entrepreneurs  
Raleigh, North Carolina**
- 2015 Open World Serbian Ambassadors Rule of Law**
- 2017 Calgary Region. Alberta Canada**
- 2019 Napa-Sonoma, California  
Open World “Higher Education Policy Making”  
Republic of Georgia**
- 2021 San Antonio, Texas**

## **The Friendship Force Mission**

**The Friendship Force mission is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people. Each individual can make a contribution to global goodwill. The Friendship Force Worldwide network of clubs and individuals seeks to overcome differences among people and nations.**

# **Rocky Top**

*Lyrics by the Osborne Brothers*

**Wish that I was on ol' Rocky Top  
Down in the Tennessee hills  
Ain't no smoggy smoke on Rocky Top  
Ain't on telephone bills**

**Rocky top, you'll always be  
Home sweet home to me  
Good ol' Rocky Top  
Rocky Top, Tennessee  
Rocky Top, Tennessee**

**Once two strangers climbed ol' Rocky Top  
Lookin' for a moonshine still  
Strangers ain't come down from Rocky Top  
Reckon they never will**

**Rocky top, you'll always be  
Home sweet home to me  
Good ol' Rocky Top  
Rocky top, Tennessee  
Rocky top, Tennessee**



# **Let There Be Peace on Earth**

*Original lyrics and music composed by  
Sy Miller and Jill Jackson*

**Let there be peace on earth  
and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth  
the peace that was meant to be.  
With God as our Creator,  
we are family.  
Let us walk with each other  
in perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me  
let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take  
let this be my solemn vow.  
To take each moment  
and live each moment  
with peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth,  
and let it begin with me.**

## **The Friendship Force Pledge**

**“As a member of the Friendship Force, I recognize that I can make a difference. I recognize that I have a mission. That mission is to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching me. I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and the people of other countries, the cause of friendship and peace can be furthered.”**



# *Mountains and Music*



## *The Beautiful Mountains of East Tennessee*



## *The Sounds of the Mountains*

Website: [friendshipforceknoxville.org](http://friendshipforceknoxville.org).