



# friendship force

## KNOXVILLE

### “Gateway to Worldwide Friendship”

Volume 19, No. 9

November 2017

#### **General Membership Meeting and Program**

The General Meeting of the members of Friendship Force, Knoxville will be held on Tuesday, November 14th, 2017 at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 6.30pm. 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.

The program for the evening will be a presentation by **Sonja DuBois**. She was born in the Netherlands during World War II. Two years after the Nazi invaded the Netherlands, her parents were deported to a concentration camp and became victims of the Holocaust. In 1942, she became an orphan and lost her identity. Tonight, she will share her story

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

Members with surnames between L and T are asked to bring snacks or finger foods.

**Come join us and bring a friend**

#### **Board meeting**

The Board will be meeting on **November 8th** at The Egg and I on Kingston Pike at 11:30a.m. It’s an open meeting, so all are welcome.

#### **Note from Our President**

So many thanks to all our members for stepping up and helping us host the 14 Ambassadors from Friendship Force of Calgary Canada. The planning committee, chaired by Jim Dennis and including Ron Mayer and Phyllis Driver, ensured that our friends from the north saw the diversity of East Tennessee, the hospitality of its people, and the beauty that surrounds us. Everyone enjoyed the activities.

Now we’ll turn our sights to our outbound exchange next year to La Serena, Chile, November 6-13, with the Raleigh club. If you are interested in going, please let me know.

The next Board meeting will be November 8 at the Egg and I. You are welcome to join us. Our next regularly scheduled meeting is November 14. There will be a program by

Sonja Dubois, and we will be electing officers for 2018. And of course, don't forget our **Holiday Party** on December 9, 11:30 at Lakeside Tavern.

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*

To **Members of Friendship Force Knoxville**  
From **Jim Denis**

**THANK YOU**

We appreciate your involvement in the Calgary Exchange (Journey). Your actions and resources in the Exchange were indeed the reason for it being so very successful. We have received several notes from the Ambassadors telling us how much they enjoyed their interaction with you. So, thank you again for volunteering for this program.

**JOB WELL DONE.**

**Jim Dennis**  
**Ron Mayer**  
**Phyllis Driver**



**Honored Member**

Congratulations to **Ruthie McIntyre!** She has been selected by the Board of the National Association of Black Storytellers to receive the Brother Blue Circle of Elders Award at the 35th Annual Black Storytelling Festival and Conference in Wichita, KS, November 8-12, 2017. This esteemed award recognizes the contributions and honored presence of Elders in the storytelling community. The "Brother Blue Award" is named honoring a college professor who was an excellent storyteller. He got his name because he always wore a blue African garb whenever he told stories. A well-deserved honor, Ruthie! Congratulations!

**JOURNEYS**

**INCOMING JOURNEYS**

**International Exchange Preview**

FFK will be going to La Serena, Chile in November 6 – 13, 2018 in a joint exchange with the Friendship Club Raleigh. More information will be available as the program develops. I hope that several of us will be able to do other things while we are in Chile and before and/or after the exchange. There will be a total of 15 Ambassadors from both clubs, so if you are interested, please let **Diana Lopez** know.

## **OUTBOUND JOURNEYS**

### **Friendship Force International**

The Journey Catalogues for FFI (friendshipforce.org) are good sources of journeys being offered in the future which our members can join. These include

#### **Mexico City and Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico**

January 18 to February 1, 2018

#### **Thames Coromandel, Wairarapa, and Marlborough, New Zealand**

March 3 to March 24, 2018

#### **Ranch and Rodeo Friendship Festival Florida, USA**

March 6 to March 11, 2018

#### **Lincoln, Nebraska, USA; the Sandhill Crane Capital of the World**

March 17 to 24, 2018

#### **Discover Vietnam**

April 11 to 28, 2018

#### **Festival at Sea Cruise**

April 22 to May 10, 2018

#### **Arts and Architecture in Dallas**

May 15 to May 22, 2018

#### **Global Youth Journey to Japan**

June 8 to June 18, 2018

### **Minutes of the September Meetings:**

#### **Board Meeting, October 3, 2017**

**Present:** Diana Lopez, Jim Dennis, Don Dougall, Jean Mayer, Phyllis Driver, LeRoy Rogers, Sandy Kehne,

**Diana Lopez** called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. Meeting location was The Egg and I in Bearden.

#### **Secretary's Report**

Minutes of the September 14, 2017 meeting were approved.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

There was no Treasurer's report due to Ray Simko being in the hospital.

#### **Membership**

Vice President LeRoy Rogers reported that at present our Knoxville club has thirty-nine paid members and three honorary members. If all the above renew their memberships next year, we will collect \$1140.

#### **Journey Updates**

Jim Dennis distributed the latest information concerning the Calgary Incoming Journey (copy attached). Details have been finalized. Day hosts have been asked to provide information for each of the daily activities that have been planned. This information will be included in the brochure which will be given to each of our visiting ambassadors.

Diana Lopez reported that we are still planning a journey to La Serena, Chile, in 2018. The dates of the journey are November 6-13. We have still not heard from the Raleigh FF club. Diana said that our club needs to find someone to act as the Journey Coordinator.

#### **General Programs**

The General Meeting of the members of Friendship Force, Knoxville will be held on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 6:30 p.m. At this meeting, we will welcome the Ambassadors from Calgary, Canada who will be visiting Knoxville until October 23rd. The meeting will be a pot-luck meal. Sandy Kehne is coordinating the food for the dinner.

Sonja Dubois will present the program on November 14th meeting. The December meeting will be a Holiday Brunch at Lakeside Tavern on December 9th.

### **Communications**

It is important that we send information concerning Friendship Force to any visitors.

### **New Business**

Wanda Rogers agreed to chair the Nominating Committee for new officers for next year. The slate will be presented at the regular November club meeting. Don Dougall called to our attention a charitable organization called ET4Puerto Rico which is collecting funds to offer relief and assistance to those in Puerto Rico who have suffered as a result of a recent hurricanes. ET4PR is proud to partner with Remote Area Medical(RAM), Hora Latina (HOLA), The City of Knoxville, and several churches in the East TN area. Individuals are encouraged to make donations. Google ET4PR for details on how to contribute. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Jean Mayer, Secretary

### **General Meeting, October 17, 2017**

The regular monthly meeting of Friendship Force Knoxville was held on Tuesday October 17, 2017 at the Tennessee Valley Universalist Unitarian Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN.

Since this date coincided with the arrival of the ambassadors of the Calgary Inbound Journey, the regular business meeting was replaced with a Welcome Dinner for our guests. The dinner was potluck style coordinated by Sandy Kehne, and many of our club members who were not hosting guests also attended the event.

Diana Lopez delivered a welcome address to the visiting ambassadors. Hosts

introduced their ambassadors to the members of the Knoxville Club.

Following dinner Jeanette Newton, the Journey Coordinator of the Calgary Club, showed a YouTube presentation about Alberta, Canada and the surrounding area. Ron Mayer showed a DVD which he had made after visiting Calgary on our club exchange there in 2014.

Joanne Hayden handed out welcome bags to our guests. Jim Dennis distributed an exchange brochure to hosts and guests which had been prepared by Ray Simko.

Members of the Calgary Club sang a song together and did some dancing for their part of the program. They successfully encouraged some of our members to join them in the dancing.

It was a very nice evening where the members of both Friendship Force Clubs were able to get acquainted and enjoy a special time together.  
Respectfully submitted,

Jean Mayer, Secretary

## **Birthday & Anniversary Wishes**

The Members of the Club send best wishes on their **Birthdays** to

**Phyllis Driver  
Panos Ioannides  
Jon Murray**

and on their **Anniversary** to

**Ron & Jean Mayer**



### 2018 Dues and Membership Application

Friendship Force International has changed the dues structure for 2018. They have eliminated the Family membership. All memberships are now Single memberships.

At the September Board Meeting the Officers and Members of the Board voted unanimously to make the following dues structure for 2018:

Single Membership will be \$30.00 Previously Family Membership was \$45.00 and Single Membership was \$30.00.

Please complete the following 2018 Membership Application Make your checks payable to: **Friendship Force of Knoxville** and mail the application and check to Ray Simko, Treasurer – 1194 Treymour Way, Knoxville, TN 37922-5165

### 2018 Membership Application (Please Print)

First Name Middle Initial Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Address, \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone. Area Code \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone. Area Code \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_