



friendship force

KNOXVILLE

“Gateway to Worldwide Friendship”

Volume 20, No.6

November 2019

Meetings

The **Annual General meeting** and Program will be held on November 19th at TVUUC on Kingston Pike from 6:30 to 8:30pm. It is the welcome dinner for the Open World Delegates from the Republic of Georgia. Members are asked to bring a covered dish.

Please see the article on the Open World for details on dinner and program.

At the Annual Meeting, we will also be electing officers for the coming year and approving the revised Bylaws for FFK.

The **Board** will meet on November 13th from 10:00 to 11:30 am at TVUUC room C. The meetings are open to all members and you are welcome.

Nominations for Officers

At the Annual Meeting, we will be electing officers for next year. The slate to be presented is as follows:

President - Kaye Bultemeier

Vice President - Jayne Raparelli

Secretary - Barbara Elder

Treasurer - Bruce Robinson

Nominations can also be made at the meeting.

Thank you,

Karen Setzland

Chair, Nominating Committee

Draft Bylaws

The proposed revised bylaws for FFK will be on the agenda for the next general meeting for any discussion and then voting on. This version of the new **draft bylaws** can be found at the FFK website (<https://friendshipforceknoxville.org/about-us>). These proposed revised bylaws were approved by the FFK Board at the October meeting, and now require approval of the general membership to be enacted. The revisions are arguably relatively minor and include 1) expanding the FFK mission statement to include domestic journeys, 2) including a statement on data protection, 3) clarifying who is on the Board of Directors, 4) changing some terminology to be consistent with Friendship Force International's, 5) revising some voting processes for Board meetings, and 6) several other minor details. The Board also approved changes to the several operating policies and procedures which are also posted on the FFK website but do not require further voting.

Note from the President

We are well into the fall and what a fall it has been. In October we welcomed the ambassadors from Napa-Sonoma, who spent a delightful 5 days enjoying what East Tennessee has to offer thanks to the planning of Mike McDonough and Jayne Raparelli and their committee. Next up is Open World with five delegates and one facilitator from the Republic of Georgia. They will spend the week with us visiting various educational institutions and learning about higher education. Plus, there are visits to ORNL and the Smokies to learn about East Tennessee. Thanks to Joanne Schuetz for coordinating the program.

Next year we can look forward to a great outbound journey to Australia in October (coordinated by Leslie Badaines and Karen Swander), another outbound journey to Napa-Sonoma in late August (Jayne Raparelli and Mike McDonough), and we will be hosting the club from Des Moines in April (Diana Lopez).

We have also submitted a proposal for another Open World in 2020. The requests for inbound and outbound journeys for 2021 have been submitted. We are willing to host one inbound domestic and one inbound international journey. We requested an outbound to England for two weeks as our #1 preference, with Romania and Georgia in the #2 spot, and Colombia and Costa Rica as #3. We will be notified in February of the location.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting is Nov 19. This is our annual meeting where we will elect the officers for next year as well as approve our updated Bylaws. You received an email from Bruce Robinson concerning the changes and can see the Bylaws on our website. There will also be a program by the delegates from Georgia. And don't forget to complete the membership application for next year and submit the fee to Bruce.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your president for the past three years, and it is now time to pass on the opportunity to others. Kaye Bultemeier has agreed to serve as president next year and will do an excellent job. There is always work to do, so I encourage everyone to get involved. Thanks for allowing me this experience.

Diana Lopez

Comment from Vice President

It has been a wonderful year for Friendship Force Knoxville. We have welcomed Napa-Sonoma, traveled to Iowa and now we welcome delegates from the Republic of Georgia. I encourage all of you to bring a guest to the November 19th welcome event for the Open World delegation. Open World exemplifies what the mission is of Friendship Force and provides an invaluable opportunity to experience and share another culture.

“Our 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.

It is exciting to see the active participation of the membership and I look forward to continuing the dynamic growth of our club.

Wishing each of you a most blessed holiday season

Kaye Bultemeier

Holiday Party

The holiday party will be a covered dish luncheon on Saturday December 7th at 12 noon at the Highland Point Clubhouse

Membership dues for 2020 are due by Dec. 31, 2019

It is time for membership renewal for 2020. The 2020 dues will be the same as this year, \$40/person, and are due by Dec. 31, 2019. (There is no longer a family membership option.) The form can be found on the FFK web site under the "About Us" tab as well as at the end this newsletter. The second page of the form is intended to offer

you the chance to say how you might like to help with FFK.

Dates for the remainder of the year are:

November 13 Board meeting

November 19 General meeting, election of officers, and program by delegates from Open World

December 7 Holiday Party

Open World Visit from Georgia

The Georgians are coming! We will host 6 representatives from the U.S. government-sponsored Open World program. All are in the field of higher education and will study "Higher Education Policy Making." A full week of activities has been planned for our guests, including visits to UT, Pellissippi State, Walters State, and LMU, among other places.

The meeting Nov. 19th at 6:30 p.m. is a dinner to welcome the delegates from the Republic of Georgia. The Georgians will provide a program for us, following dinner. Please bring a covered dish to share and call or e-mail Janis (865-690-7841 or jgr@utk.edu) with your selection, so she can plan. Our theme is "Orange," and you will see why, at the meeting. Please wear something orange to the gathering. And, any ideas for orange food dishes????

On Sunday morning, Nov. 17th, FFK member and Open World Host Sonja DuBois will give a presentation at First Presbyterian Church, 620 State Street, to Sunday school classes. You are welcome and encouraged to join the delegates and their hosts. The title of her talk will be "Preserving the Legacy," based on her book, "Finding Schifrah, the journey of a Dutch Holocaust survivor." Following the presentation, you are invited to attend

services at the church, from 11 a.m. until 12:15 p.m.

I invite you all to join delegates and hosts at a special program at the Natalie Haslam Music Center, 1741 Volunteer Boulevard, on the University of Tennessee campus on Sunday 17th November. Dr. Miroslav Hristov, Artistic Director and UT Professor of Violin, has invited all FFK members to join him and his wife, Natalie Hristov, at the first of the 2019-2020 Ready for the World music series. Faculty artists, renowned guest artists from Mexico, and music historians will discuss and perform classical musical traditions from Mexico. The concert begins at 2 p.m. Prior to the concert, a buffet of Mexican traditional foods will be offered. I would suggest arriving at 1 p.m. to view the exhibit and enjoy "a taste of Mexico," prior to entering the concert hall for the performance. There is no charge for the event. Parking is available free of charge in the lot adjacent to the Music Center. However, there is no seating for the light buffet, so please be aware you will have to stand while holding a small plate.

The FFK tradition of planting a tree, in honor of our guests, will continue with the Georgians. All club members are invited to the planting at the Knoxville Botanical Gardens Tuesday, Nov. 19th at 2 p.m. Directions: Knoxville Botanical Garden, 2817 Boyds Bridge Pike. We will meet by the "Mule Barn." Take Dandridge Ave., out of downtown, and continue straight onto Brooks Ave. Left onto Biddle St. and right onto Boyds Bridge Pike. Turn left, up the hill, to the parking lot. North of the parking lot is the Mule Barn.

Friendship Force members are invited to join the Georgian delegates and their hosts at a Mayor's coffee on Wednesday, Nov. 20th at 9:30 a.m. to welcome the delegates from Georgia to Knoxville. Mayor Rogero will meet with the

group. We will gather on the 5th floor of the City County building on Hill Ave.

To those who are not hosting: Would you please consider hosting a light supper on Sunday, Nov. 17th, for some of the delegates and hosts (Betsy Tonkin, Bultemeier/Kuck, Kathy Wright (865-310-3235 - not a member yet), DuBois, Lopez, Mayer). Let's try to have each host treated to a group dinner this one night. Please contact the FF member directly to arrange this, or you may contact Joanne at 521-9937.

If you are available to assist in driving delegates, please let me know, as well (this would mainly involve short drives). You can also work this out with the hosts.

Thanks to all, ahead of time, for your participation.

Joanne Schuetz (865-521-9937)

Help Wanted

The Telephone Calling Committee is in need of two or three additional volunteers to assist with this very important club project. Committee members are asked to call three or four other members several days before a club event to remind them about the event. Each committee member will receive the contact information for each member they are to call. Prior to each event the committee member will receive an email from me detailing information to share with the club members on their list.

Your commitment in time is no more than five or ten minutes to make these calls. If you are willing to volunteer for this important ongoing project please either email me at raysimko@yahoo.com or call me at (865) 670-3564.

Ray Simko

Friendship Force International makes changes in charter regarding data protection

Our charter with our parent organization, Friendship Force International (FFI), has been renewed. Because of the current concerns with data protection, the European Union (EU) has passed very detailed rules. As an international organization with many clubs in Europe, FFI has decided to adhere to EU data protection rules in order to be in compliance with EU law. The changes in the renewed charter reflect those rules. The new data protection sections in the charter are quite extensive. Consequently, the Board of FFI has decided it is prudent for us to only collect the data that we absolutely need to operate and to distribute data only as needed. "As needed"

does include providing the directory to all club members and an electronic contact/e-mail list to Board members and committee chairs and committee members. However, the new data protection rules seem to question whether FFI should publish birthdays and anniversaries. Consequently, the Board has decided not to collect and publish such information.

Outbound to Australia in Fall 2020

The Knoxville Friendship Force has been invited to visit North Moreton and the Gold Coast clubs on the east coast of Australia in October. Our fall is of course their spring, so

it should be beautiful, not too hot or too cold. A number of people have expressed interest. It's a great way to visit Australia. Leslie Badaines and Karen Swander will be Ambassador co-coordinators for Australia.

Friendship Force International

The Journey Catalogues for Friendship Force International (friendshipforce.org) and the US Flyer from FFI(support@friendshipforce.org) are good sources of journeys being offered in the future which our members can join.

INBOUND JOURNEYS

Inbound Des Moines in April

The ambassadors from the Friendship Force of Greater Des Moines are coming to Knoxville April 22-27, 2020. Of course, we want to reciprocate for our visit up there and show them the beauty of East Tennessee. **Diana Lopez** is the host coordinator and will be asking for committee members to plan the program, overnight hosts for the group of 16, day hosts for activities, and dinner hosts. If you are interested in serving in any of these capacities or if you have any great ideas for activities, please contact Diana, dlopez@utk.edu or 865 223 4036.

2020 Dues and Membership Application/Renewal

Friendship Force of Knoxville (FFK) dues for 2020 are \$40.00 per person (\$20 if new member joining after July 1, 2020). New members also need to include \$15.00 each for a name tag. Please complete the Membership Application/Renewal form below and the member interest survey on the next page. The due date is December 31, 2019. Make your checks payable to: Friendship Force of Knoxville and mail the form and check to: Bruce Robinson, P.O. Box 53104, Knoxville, TN 37950

2020 Membership Application/Renewal

(Please Print)

First Name (or Initial)

Middle Initial (or Name)

Last Name

Please write "no change" here if your contact information has not changed and then skip to the next page to fill out the member interest survey. _____

Name as you would like it on your name tag if you are a new member:

Street Address

City

State

Zip Code

Home telephone: Area Code/Number

Cell Phone: Area Code/Number _____

Email

In accordance with sections of our charter with Friendship Force International relating to data protection, please note that the information above will be included in a member directory provided to all Friendship Force of Knoxville members. An electronic contact/e-mail list will also be provided to committee chairs and members and the Board of Directors.

Revised October 29, 2019

How would you like to get involved?

Friendship Force of Knoxville needs your help in various ways in order to meet its mission. We encourage every member to be a part of making FFK active and vibrant. Please identify an activity or activities you would be willing to help on. Check as many as you like, but please check at least one.

Name: _____

1) Home Hosting:

- a) Are you able to host? Yes No
- b) How many can you host? _____

2) Day Hosting:

How many people can you fit comfortably into your car besides the driver? _____

3) Small Dinner Parties

- a) Can you host or co-host a small dinner party? Yes No
- b) Maximum number you can serve including yourself? _____

4) Which of the following committees/activities would you be interested in working on?

- a) Communications (website): Yes No
- b) Communications (newsletter): Yes No
- c) Telephone committee (remind members of events, etc.): Yes No
- d) Publicity: Yes No
- e) Finance committee: Yes No
- f) Activities committee (identify and organize events): Yes No
- g) Program committee (identify speakers that meet FFK's mission): Yes No
- h) Membership committee (member recruitment/retention resources): Yes No
- i) Club history (maintain history of club's activities): Yes No
- j) Photography of club events: Yes No

Please feel free to make any comments below:

Revised October 29, 2019