



friendship force

KNOXVILLE

“Gateway to Worldwide Friendship”

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June, 2017

General Membership Meeting and Program

The General Meeting of the members of Friendship Force, Knoxville will be held on Tuesday, June 20th, 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.

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

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

Program at the General Meeting

Ms. Ghada Ayesh from the Annoor Academy will be the presenter. The subject will be the Muslim community in Knoxville.

Please plan to attend this meeting to gain a current insight about the Muslim World.

Come join us and bring a friend

Board meeting

The Board will be meeting on June 14th at The Egg and I on Kingston Pike at 11:30a.m. It's an open meeting, so anyone is welcome.

Note from Our President

We had an amazing, whirlwind session on journey coordination, organized by Ruthie McIntyre and presented by Jim Dennis, Ron Mayer, Phyllis Driver, and Ray Simko. It was beneficial for all in attendance to understand the process and to ask questions. We have cancelled the Open World exchange for this year so that we can concentrate on the Calgary exchange. Those ambassadors will be here Oct 17-23, and we need everyone's help. Jim is journey coordinator, assisted by Ron and a team of volunteers. Plans are underway to make this an exciting journey for all. I hope that everyone will participate in one way or another.

We have also been invited to join with the Raleigh club for a journey to La Serena Chile in 2018. The journey will take place probably in November, which will be their

late spring. Do be thinking about going as more details will be forthcoming.

Ms. Ghada Ayesh from the Annoor Academy will join us at the June 20 meeting to share information about the Muslim community in Knoxville. Although many will already be gone on vacation, I hope we will have a good attendance. It should be a very informative meeting.

And don't forget our summer picnic scheduled for July 13. Mark your calendar now.

We must say goodbye to Isaac Bader as he moves to New Jersey and to Janis and Bruce Robinson who will be moving to the southwest US in late summer. They have all contributed much to the board and the club and will be missed. We wish them well.

Jean Mayer has agreed to take over as secretary for the board and will be approved at the June board meeting.

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

JOURNEYS

INCOMING JOURNEYS

Calgary, Canada Journey:

The dates for the Calgary Journey to Knoxville are October 17-23, 2017. Details will be provided to our members as soon as they are available.

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.

OUTBOUND JOURNEYS

2017 FFI World Conference

Manchester, United Kingdom.

August 25 to 27, 2017 For additional information, please contact

www.friendshipforce.org

Kampala, Uganda and Nairobi, Kenya

October 14 to 28th, 2017

This journey has home stays in each city and an optional extension.

Further information is available in the FFI catalogue or by contacting the Journey Directors.

Jack and Ilene Green

Journey Directors

Friendship Force Denver

jack.green@comcast.net

Friendship Force International

The Journey Catalogues for FFI

(friendshipforce.org) are also good sources of journeys being offered in the future which our members can join.

Friendship Force Knoxville

Below are the minutes of the May meetings:

Board Meeting, May 10, 2017

Present: Jim Dennis, Sandy Keane, Panos Ioannides, Renee Ioannides, Diana Lopez, Janis Robinson, Leroy Rogers, Ray Simko.

Diana Lopez opened the meeting at 11:30 a.m. Meeting location was The Egg and I in Bearden. Minutes of the April Board Meeting were approved.

Secretary's Report

Janis Robinson reported that she and Bruce would be moving from Tennessee in July or August. A new secretary would need to be found and Ray Simko will retake the position of Webmaster.

Treasurer's Report

Ray Simko provided copies of the April Treasurer's report (copy available) which was approved by the Board.

Membership VP's Report

A visitor to the club Chinese Auction meeting took a membership form but has not, yet, turned it in. Roy will follow-up with the person.

Journey Updates

Updates on the Calgary Incoming Journey was provided (copy available) and the new dates for the group to visit are October 17-23, 2017. There are 12 Ambassador's coming from Calgary. A meeting of the Journey Planning Committee is planned for May, either May 23 or 24 at 2p.m. or May 30-31 at 2p.m. Members should let Jim know which date works best.

Jim Dennis has a copy of the Member Resource Referral Guide and Ray Simko distributed a copy of the Journey Guidelines.

Diana asked if the Club wanted to continue trying to host the Open World Exchange since we did not have any host volunteers and it was scheduled for a time when many members would be away. It was moved and approved for Diana to cancel the Exchange with FFI.

The dates for our Journey to Chile have not been finalized, yet, but we have requested November 6th, 2018. November 1st is not a good date for the hosts since it is a National holiday in Chile.

Summer Activities

Several suggestions were made for club activities in the Summer. A picnic will be planned for July 13th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Metcalf Bottoms. The Brown Bag will be contacted about catering.

Communications Committee

Diana asked the officers to send Don Dougal information and articles when he requests input for the next newsletter. Don will be traveling when the September newsletter should be created and Diana and Ray will take that on. It was also decided that we did not need full newsletters for July and August.

Diana will be away during the June Board meeting and Leroy Rogers will officiate.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 p.m.

General Meeting. May 17, 2017

Diana Lopez opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Meeting location was the TN Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN.

Diana Lopez began with a few remarks about items discussed at the Board Meeting:

1. Janis and Bruce Robinson will be moving to the southwest, probably in August. They will be missed, and we will need to find a new Secretary.
2. The club received a note from Laura Ford thanking us for the contribution to the church in Gordon Ford's memory.
3. We have cancelled the Open World group coming from Kosovo due to loss of members and needing to concentrate on the Calgary journey coming in October. FFI has been notified.
4. If there is interest, we will plan a picnic at Metcalf Bottoms for July 13. Almost

everyone raised their hand that they would try to come.

Diana also mentioned some highlights from the 40th Anniversary cruise and from the video training session from FFI.

Ruthie McIntyre then took over in a seminar on journeys. She was assisted by Jim Dennis, Ron Mayer, Ray Simko, and Phyllis Driver. The Journey Guidelines plus a few other items of interest were distributed to everyone in attendance. The seminar was an overview of both incoming and outgoing journeys; however, the incoming Calgary journey was foremost in everyone's mind. After the presentations, Ruthie and others answered questions and announced a planning session for the Calgary planning committee.

Birthday & Anniversary Wishes

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

**Nancy Schowalter
Jasmin Mishu**

and on their **Anniversaries**, to

**Joanne Hayden & Doug McCoin
Patsy & John Ellis
Janis & R. Bruce Robinson**