



friendship force

KNOXVILLE

“Gateway to Worldwide Friendship”

Volume 20, No. 5

September 2018

General Membership Meeting and Program

The General Meeting of the members of Friendship Force, Knoxville will be held on Tuesday, September 18th, 2018 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 next to Second Presbyterian Church.

The **program** will be a presentation by new FFK member Dr. Al Legendre about his river trip on the Peruvian Amazon in the area of Iquitos Peru. He will focus on the flora and fauna of the rivers that make up the Amazon River and also talk about a visit to a native village showing the lifestyle of the inhabitants. Al is a retired Professor of Internal Medicine and Oncology at the College of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Tennessee.

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

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

**Come join us and make our
visitors welcome**

Board meeting

The Board will meet on Wednesday September 12th at The Egg and I on Kingston Pike at 11:30a.m. It's an open meeting, so all are welcome.

Casual dinners with new members

New members Karen Swander and B.E. Colway dined with Janis and Bruce Robinson on August 2nd. Conversation covered a wide range of topics humorous and serious and they discovered they had a mid-west connection! It was great to meet new friends.

On Monday evening August 27, 2018 Ron and Jean Mayer and Don and Carolyn Dougall hosted a dinner at the Mayer home. There were twelve people including six new Friendship Force members and one prospective member.

The guests included Rick and Nancy Cooper, Peg Hart, Raul Rivero, Gracie Wilson, Barbara Taylor and Allen Monserat. Diana Lopez, President, also was present. There was good food, fellowship, and fun. It was a great way to gather a small group together to become better acquainted. Much information about our local club was shared and as a result these

new members will become active participants in our activities and journeys. Mike McDonough and Jayne Raparelli enjoyed a wonderful evening with new Friendship Force members, Helen Bachrach, and Jonathan Hash. We had them over for dinner in our downtown apartment. We shared many stories and hated to see the evening come to an end. Mike and I were glad to have the opportunity to get to know Jonathan and Helen. We look forward to doing the same with more of our new members and longer-term folks as well. -- Last month Karen Setzfand and Ray Simko invited Dave and Jeana Johnson to dinner. They also asked LeRoy and Wanda Rogers to join them to help provide a greater overview of Friendship Force for the Johnson's.

What a delightful evening to learn about Dave and Jeana. They both attended U.T. Dave was a petroleum engineer and took the family from Columbia, South America to Alaska with stops in between. After retirement they spent 10 years living on a sail boat. A year ago they return to East Tennessee and are now living in Fountain City. What an interesting life they both have lived! Everyone had an enjoyable evening and a delicious meal.

In Memoriam

Margaret Dixon, who was a member of the Friendship Force of Knoxville in 2014, passed away Wednesday, September 5, 2018.

Cape of Good Hope Coming to Knoxville

The Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, Friendship Force Club will visit Knoxville the week of June 24-July 1, 2019. We're expecting 17 ambassadors: 5 couples and 7 singles. A committee is planning a week's worth of activities to provide our friends a

memorable and fun experience. But we can't do it alone. There are many ways to help: *Home Hosts*—provide overnight accommodations and breakfast. If possible, drive and accompany guests (ambassadors) to the daily activities.

Day Hosts—perfect for those who can't home host but are available during the day. Accompany/drive ambassadors to daily activities.

Dinner Hosts—we'd like a few members to host dinner parties at their homes for ambassadors and their home hosts.

We'll provide more information as we get closer to our host week, including a detailed itinerary.

You'll have an opportunity to sign up and volunteer at our September 18 membership meeting. Or you can let us know now if you can assist.

Host co-coordinators: Jayne Raparelli 423-871-1739 jaynerap@aol.com & Mike McDonough 423-201-3181

Note from the President

Friendship Force of Knoxville now has 30 new members, so welcome to all! It is amazing what Ron Mayer and his task force did to recruit everyone. And now our new members are inviting their friends, so the club keeps growing. Let's not stop. If you have a friend who you think would be interested, invite them to the next meeting. We stayed busy all summer with activities to get to know better our new members and for them to get to know us. We had a lunch and visit to the Knoxville Museum of Art in June. In July we had lunch at Sullivan's and then went to see the matinee at the Flying Anvil Theatre where one of our new members, Bill Cherry, serves on the board. For August, many of our older members invited the newer members for lunch/dinner. These were quite successful as you'll read in another part of this newsletter.

Now we are into our regular meetings with much work to be done. Next year we will be hosting the club from the Cape of Good Hope, and we have a request from the Napa/Sonoma Counties to visit us. Is someone willing to take on the coordination of this journey? We also have a request to visit Des Moines, Iowa. Of course, both of these clubs would reciprocate the following year. There are still other positions open too, so get involved in one or more ways!

Believe it or not, we have already been asked about inbound and outbound journeys for 2020. We submitted the form to let FFI know that we are willing to host one incoming journey. We will be requesting outbound journeys for 2020 in November. If you have suggestions, let us know Jayne Raparelli, the Host Coordinator for the Cape of Good Hope club, has a committee together and beginning to make plans for this visit June 24-July 1. We will need many of you to host either overnight or day or for dinner. More about this at our September meeting.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting is Sept 18. Al Legendre will be speaking about his trip on the Peruvian Amazon. Please come mix and mingle with all our members. 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.

Program Committee,

The programs for September and October of 2018 and for 2019 will generally be about FFK member's or special guest's travel. The program on September 18, 2018 will be presented by new member Al Legendre on his trip down the Peruvian Amazon. The October 30, 2018 program will be by special guest Ana Luisa Salinas about Chile and, especially, La Serena where many FFK members will be on an out-bound journey in November 2018. As it

happens La Serena, Chile, is Ana Luisa's hometown!

December 8, 2018 is the holiday party and January 2019 will begin the FFK year with Carolyn Dougall sharing a hiking trip made in July 2016 to the Orkneys and the Shetland Islands in northern Scotland.

There are so many more members and guests who are well-traveled, and I am looking forward to hearing more about the world they have seen and the friends they have made! Come and join us!

Janis Robinson

JOURNEYS

INCOMING JOURNEYS

International Exchange Preview

Friendship Force Knoxville will be participating in an incoming journey from Cape of Good Hope, South Africa to Western North Carolina and Knoxville, U.S.A. We will keep you informed as this develops.

OUTBOUND JOURNEYS

La Serena, Chile

FFK will be going to La Serena, Chile in November 6 – 13, 2018 in a joint exchange with the Friendship Force Club, Raleigh. This trip is a work in progress with spaces available for those who want to go. Members and friends who are interested in joining this journey, should advise either **Diana Lopez** or **Ron Mayer**

Friendship Force International

The Journey Catalogues for FFI (friendshipforce.org) and U.S. eFlyer (support@friendshipforce.org) are good sources of journeys being offered in the

future which our members can join. These include

Discover the Biodiversity of Southwestern

Australia

October 8 to 19, 2018

Republic of Georgia with an optional extension to Armenia

Oct. 14 – 25, extension Oct. 25-31, 2018

For details contact Sherry Wileman at (slwileman@mindspring.com) or at 404-386-9224

Discover Morocco

November 1 to November 15, 2018

Moscow and Cities of the Golden Ring, Russia

May 18 to June 1, 2019

Discover Mongolia and Siberia

August 1 to August 15, 2019

For additional information about these and other journeys contact FFI.

Birthday & Anniversary Wishes

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

Ray Simko on September 2nd
Bill Cherry on September 2nd
Carolyn Dougall on September 4th
Carole Seidler on September 12th
Susan Dakak on September 19th
Jerry Thornton on September 22nd
LeRoy Rogers on October 7th
Sonja DuBois on October 19th