



# friendship force

KNOXVILLE

## “Gateway to Worldwide Friendship”

Website: [www.Friendshipforceknoxville.org](http://www.Friendshipforceknoxville.org)

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### Journey Overviews

#### 2021

Outbound Napa/Sonoma..... Tentative 2021  
 Outbound San Antonio, TX..... Oct 1-6, 2021  
 Inbound San Antonio, TX..... Oct 22-27, 2021

#### 2022

Inbound St. Louis, MO ..... Sept 2022  
 Outbound Romania ..... Tentative June 2022  
 Outbound Australia..... Mid-Oct/Early Nov 2022



### Note from the President

Greetings, Friendship Force of Knoxville members!

Let me begin by thanking you for renewing your membership to FFK.

Whether you are a new, semi-new, or long-term FFK member, I encourage you to attend our next membership event. We are fortunate to have Jeremi Snook, the Friendship Force International President and CEO, share with us the future vision of FFI. Jeremi will be our speaker on Tuesday, January 26. Join the event via Zoom and be prepared to learn something new.

Covid-19 has caused major disruption to our club’s travel and hosting plans. We had been scheduled to travel to Romania this June. In April, the St. Louis, Missouri Friendship Force Club had planned to visit Knoxville. Because of the pandemic, both of those journeys have been

postponed, most likely to 2022. We will let you know when we have new dates.

This September and October, we anticipate outbound journeys to Napa-Sonoma, California, and San Antonio, Texas. We also plan to have San Antonio visit Knoxville in October. All three journeys provide opportunities to experience the joys of belonging to Friendship Force: travel as an ambassador, and stay in club members’ homes, host ambassadors in your home, participate in the activities we will offer to our San Antonio friends, as well as attend their Welcome and Farewell dinners.

We look forward to the much-anticipated time when we can once again travel/host and create lasting friendships.

*Jayne Raparelli, President*



## January 26<sup>th</sup> FFK Virtual Meeting

Join us from the comfort of your own home on January 26<sup>th</sup> for our monthly club virtual meeting. The Zoom link is below.

Our special guest will be **Jeremi Snook**, CEO and President of Friendship Force International. Learn the plans FFI is making to keep us all better connected and about their vision for a post-pandemic Friendship Force.



Join us at 6:30 pm for a little social time. The program will begin at 7:00 pm. Feel free to invite a visitor to join the meeting, too, and hear the organization's president and CEO. Just send them the link below.

Topic: FFK General Event

Time: **Jan 26, 2021 06:30 PM EST**

Zoom Link:

<https://tinurl.com/y5fukvwt>

Meeting ID: 863 3730 6733

Passcode: 617997

Dial by your location: 1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

## Let's Travel and Host Again!

We are eagerly awaiting our assignments for 2022, but in the meantime, are trying to complete the journeys that have backed up during the pandemic. We are hoping to begin with three domestic journeys in September and October. Journey summaries are below.

### Outbound Journeys

- **2021 Napa-Sonoma Outbound** – Would like us to tentatively visit the first week of September 2021. Contact Jayne Raparelli, [Jaynerap@aol.com](mailto:Jaynerap@aol.com), and Mike McDonough.
- **2021 San Antonio Outbound** – Dates are set for Oct 1-6. Contact Leslie Badaines, [badainesl@aol.com](mailto:badainesl@aol.com).

- **2022 Romania Outbound** – Postponed until June 2022. Contact Diana Lopez, [dlopez@utk.edu](mailto:dlopez@utk.edu).

- **2022 Australia Outbound** – mid Oct/early Nov. Contact Leslie Badaines, [badainesl@aol.com](mailto:badainesl@aol.com).

### Inbound Journeys

- **2021 San Antonio Inbound** – Dates are Oct 22-27. Contact Jayne Raparelli, [Jaynerap@aol.com](mailto:Jaynerap@aol.com), and Mike McDonough.
- **2022 Des Moines Inbound** – Des Moines will visit Knoxville in April 2022. Need a new host coordinator. Contact Diana Lopez, [dlopez@utk.edu](mailto:dlopez@utk.edu).
- **2022 St Louis, MO Inbound** – Postponed until Sep 2022. Still need a host coordinator.

Leslie Badaines & Diana Lopez,  
Journey Co-coordinators

## Merry December 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

Fifteen FFK members attended the December meeting sharing memories of travel close to Christmastime. We globe-trotted through Vietnam, Germany, Colombia, Nepal, London, Tuscany and cruises on the Danube, Seine and through the Panama Canal as well as sharing memories of family Christmases.

Three survey questions also had the group discussing their favorite Christmas/Holiday time movies, drinks and songs. The attendees had a pleasurable evening and wished each other the joys and happiness of the season.

## FFI Virtual Events

Regularly, virtual events are added to FFI's webpage providing members from around the world a chance to learn new things and get to know each other.

To see these events, go to the FFI webpage at <https://www.friendshipforce.org/> and at the top of the page is a banner with “Virtual Experiences” in a green box. Click on this box to see the list of available programs by scrolling down the page that displays.

#### **Live programs coming soon**

**Thursday, January 28, 2021, 2:30 p.m. EST**  
Trivia Quiz: Friendship Force members around the world are invited to join this entertaining trivia quiz with a new set of questions every month!

**Tuesday, February 9, 2021, 2:00 p.m. EST**  
Watercolor Doodles: Valentines: Join this online community event in partnership with FF of Sacramento and The Renaissance Society for Life-Long Learning. The group will do small, simple Valentine watercolor paintings that can be given as cards to friends or family members. Check website entry for information about supplies if you wish to paint along.

#### **Recorded programs to try**

- **Worth a Second Look, Pt. II: Time to Celebrate Our Photos**  
Host: Dr. Susan Brenner, FF Dayton  
We will follow the cycle of observing, discovering, creating, and experiencing as a way to “celebrate” our special moments.
- **Faces and Places: Sibiu, Romania**  
Camelia Grigore, FF Sibiu extends a warm invitation to learn about her country.

#### **Upcoming Dates—Mark your calendars**

Virtual Board Meeting: February 9, 2:00 p.m.

Virtual General Meeting: February 23  
6:30 p.m. Social; 7:00 p.m. Program

All dates are on the FFK “Calendar” web page.



“No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.” Hal Borland