



friendship force
KNOXVILLE

A world of friends
is a world of peace

Volume 27, No. 10

September 2026

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Important Dates

Outbound to Taupo and Southland, New Zealand:
Nov. 1-14
Outbound to Aljuela, Costa Rica: March 2-9, 2027

FFK Website: www.friendshipforceknoxville.org
Facebook: Friendship Force of Knoxville
E-mail: FriendshipForceKnoxville@gmail.com
FFI Website: <https://my.friendshipforce.org>

Friendship Force International

There is a link to the international website above. You can find lots of information here as well as pay your international dues. You can find your member id and club information by double clicking on the circular icon to the top right of your screen and selecting my profile. You can also sign up for the International newsletter. If you go to the Help Center and type in Newsletter it will give you the information you need. You can also find a list of all the club journeys. Lots of information with a little exploration!

Happy October.

Delora

Friendship Force Journeys, 2026-2027

New Zealand

Outbound: November 1-14 2026

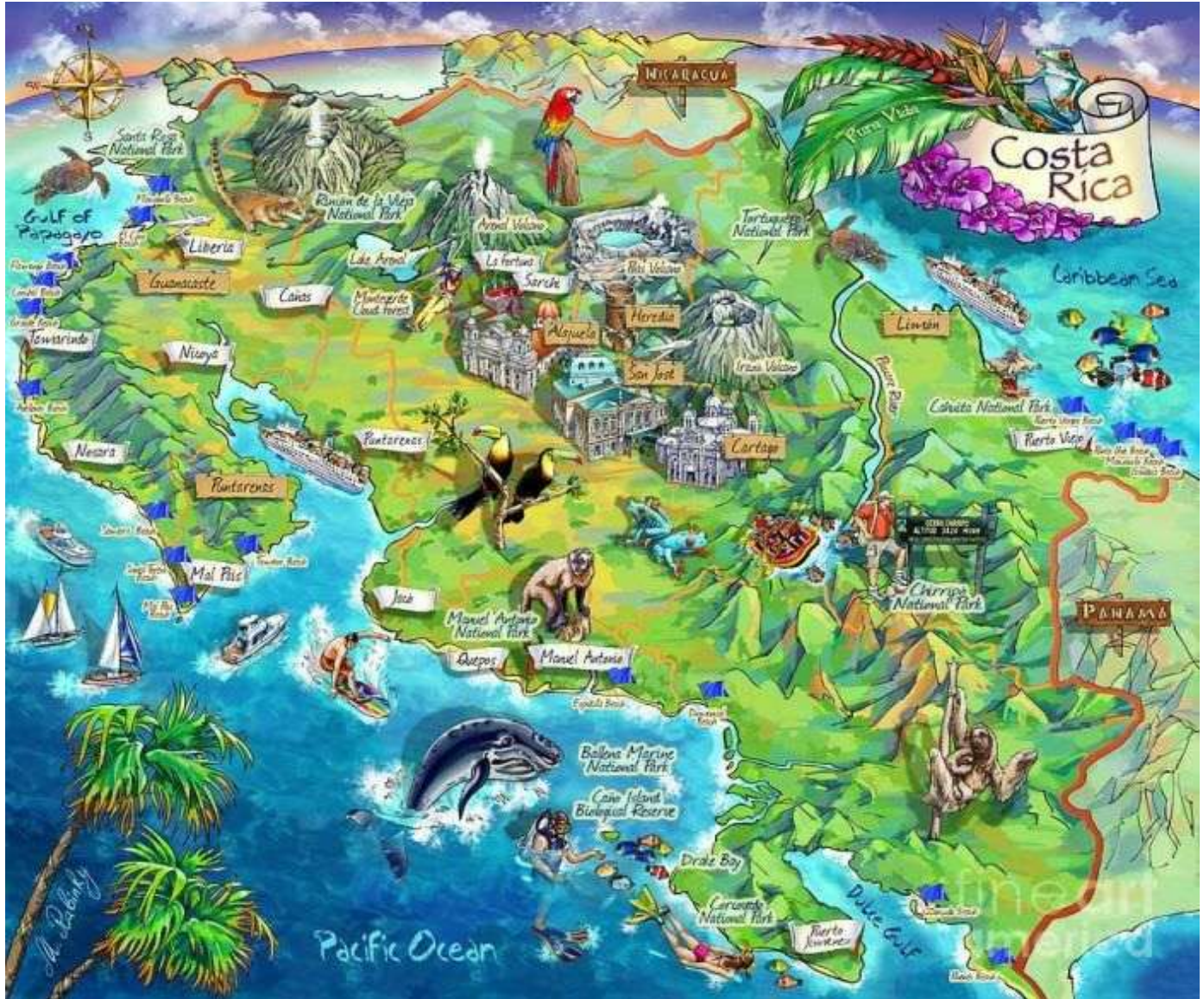


Leslie Badaines is the ambassador coordinator for this journey. We will be joined by friends from North Carolina and Canada.

Costa Rica

Outbound: March 2-9 (tentative)

We will be sharing this journey to Alajuela Costa Rica with Northeastern Ohio so spaces are limited. Leslie and Joan are exploring interest in this journey.



Leslie (badainesL@aol.com)

Joan (jturbyville@comcast).

Central Iowa

Outbound:

Tentative dates for this outgoing journey are around the middle of August, in time for the Iowa State Fair, where you might see budding Presidential candidates and another favorite, the cow sculpted out of butter.



These are just a few of the attractions that Iowa has to offer. Here are some others:

<https://www.traveliowa.com/iowas-27-national-historic-landmarks/>



Des Moines, Iowa

Skyline at night

Alajuela, Costa Rica

Inbound:

FF Alajuela, Costa Rica to FF Knoxville:

We will be welcoming Alajuela, Costa Rica to Knoxville in the Fall of 2027; most likely in mid October when leaves are expected to change color in the Smoky Mountains. If you would like to host our incoming international friends, please let Leslie and Joan know.

Outings:

Holy Land Market

August 25, 2026 Nine FFK members gathered for a delicious lunch and excellent company at the Holy Land Market.



Greek Festival

September 11, 2026 Seven members braved the heat and enjoyed fantastic food at Greekfest. Thanks to Leslie for organizing this outing



Upcoming Events:

October 27, 2026 Beck Cultural Exchange Center We are very excited about our outing on Oct. 27 to the Beck Cultural Exchange Center 1927 Dandridge Ave. Beck has been designated by the state as a primary repository of Black history and culture in East Tennessee. This promises to be a fascinating look at local history. We plan to get lunch together at Central Flats and Taps, 1204 North Central (parking is available on the street and in back). Many thanks to Paulette for all her work on this event! We will meet at the Alex Haley statue at 1620 Dandridge Ave at 9:45 AM, Ample parking is available. If you prefer to meet at Beck Center, be there by 10:30. The tour lasts 1-1.5 hours. With a short movie and time for questions. There is no admission fee but donations are appreciated. Please RSVP for lunch by Oct. 20 to Paulette Anderson 865 567-4879.

December 8, 2026 Holiday dinner at Holly's Gourmet Market. We are scheduled to have our Holiday Party in the evening with approximately the same menu as last year. The club will be covering the cost of the meal and a cash bar will be available. Please feel free to make suggestions to make this a fun event for everyone!

Board Meetings 3 pm

November 17, 2026, December 15, 2026

Notes / Member Information

If you are interested in attending the Board Meetings virtually (or in-person when they take place) please e-mail Bill Cherry. FFK Members can also request a copy of Board meeting minutes from Secretary, Phyllis Driver. Host and Ambassador Coordinators are listed on the FFK *About Us* web page

2026 Club Officers & Chairpersons

President	Open Position
VP / Acting President	Bill Cherry
Secretary	Phyllis Driver
Treasurer	Marsha Mitchell
Program Chairperson	Dave & Ellen Greenwood
Membership Chairperson	Bill Cherry
Journey Chairs	Joan Turbyville & Leslie Badaines
Communications Chairperson	Delora Cook
Club Concerns	Paulette Anderson
Historian	Karen Swander