



## President's Message

As we celebrate this season of giving and giving thanks, each of us has much for which to be grateful. Our lists might be different, but we would surely have friends and family on our lists. And so, I am grateful for the friends that I have made through Friendship Force, both at home and away. I hope that we can continue to share our message of

peace, hope and friendship through this organization that we enjoy and support.

This is my last message as President after serving in that capacity for two years. I have enjoyed getting to know many of you better and to developing a better understanding of how our club and Friendship Force International work. I encourage each of you to find the time to take on leadership roles within the club, whether as a position on the Board, as a committee member, or working on a journey. I do believe that you will appreciate the people and the process, and we will appreciate you.

As we wrap up 2019, we can be proud of the work that we have done this year. We hosted two inbound journeys from Lake Hartwell and Tallahassee, and coordinated an outbound to Memphis. In addition to bi-monthly Board meetings, your Board held two retreats during the year. The First Sunday gatherings were well attended throughout the year and provided an opportunity for members and guests to get to know one another.

Looking forward to 2020, we have outbound journeys headed to New Zealand and Australia, as well as one to Florida Suncoast, and expect to host clubs from Christchurch, NZ, and Memphis during the year. Your Board is organized and has divided up responsibilities to continue on in the absence of a president. We also welcome our new members who will bring fresh ideas and energy to the club.

Judy Wright, President

## The Friendship Force Pledge

That mission is to be a **friend** to the people of the world. As I embark on this adventure I know that others will be watching me. I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and the people of other nations the cause of **friendship**, love and peace can be furthered.

### Sign up and Save the Date

Molly Keifer would like to thank all of you who helped make our First Sundays @ 5 so successful. And especially BIG thank you all for already filling up the 2020 year.

The Krapf's (January)  
The Roberson's (February)  
The Rakouskas's (March)  
will host the first quarter. From your feedback, we do agree that space that allows more conversation, and more movement would be more conducive to meeting and greeting.



## Holiday Party 2019

Annual soiree to celebrate the holiday took place at Rockford. Friendship Force members enjoyed delicious dinner, live music and amazing company.



I would like to thank everyone for sending me your articles and pictures. This newsletter would not be the same without YOU. I am so grateful for your friendship and looking forward to Year 2020. Happy Holidays!  
-Olga Dovoric

### Save the Date

Many of our newer members (last couple of years) have asked just exactly what are the behind the scenes workings of Friendship Force of Raleigh? What does it take to be a day host, home host, regional dinner host etc.? Several of the board members will host a Wine and Cheese/Information Forum on Thursday, January 16th from 5-6:30 pm at Waltonwood Lake Boone on Lake Boone Trail. We will send out more information soon, but please save the date.  
-Molly Kiefer

Trip to New Zealand and Australia March/April 2020  
We have 6 members traveling from our Raleigh club. If you would like to join the group, please call Donna Steele ASAP at 919-333-6361.





Our **appreciation** is extended to these long-serving members who have decided to leave the Board after the 2019 term: Sara Brower, Karen Hatcher, Carol Reilly

It is time to renew your membership. If you have not done so already, please take a moment to complete the form at the end of this newsletter and send it with your check to the P. O. Box on the form. If you are not a member, we would love to have you. You may complete the same form and send it in. If you have not completed an Areas of Interest Form, please do so as well.

#### LAST MINUTE UPDATE

Unfortunately, Friendship Force of Christchurch (NZ) has cancelled their journey to the U. S. Due to multiple untimely deaths in their club, the next year for them will be spent reorganizing and setting their directions. We send them our sympathy and warm friendship.

#### Members are encouraged to join a committee:

Activities Committee– Liz Smith, chair  
First Sunday Gatherings – Molly Kiefer, chair;  
Mike Rakouskas – communications  
Member Concerns – Carol Winner  
Membership Committee –Mike Rakouskas, chair; Jan Johnson, Rose Marie Holsing, Carol Reilly.  
Newsletter– Olga Dovoric, editor; Judy Wright  
Peace Pole – Mike Rakouskas, Brenda Gay – co-chairs;  
DeAnne Dotson, Heena Patel  
Publicity/Public Relations – Mike Rakouskas; Rachel Masimore  
Telephone Committee – Carol Reilly, chair;  
Jan Johnson, Judy Allen  
Website – Jorge Montoya

#### JOURNEY TO FLORIDA SUNCOAST

Twelve members of Friendship Force of Raleigh are ready to pack their bags in February to journey to the Clearwater/Tampa area. The club there is planning



an interesting itinerary, and we look forward to their hospitality. We hope to meet many of these members who attended the World Conference this summer.

#### 2020 Board

President: None  
(Any volunteers?)  
Vice-President: Molly Kiefer  
Treasurer: Donna Steele  
Secretary: Heena Patel  
Past President: Judy Wright  
**Directors:**  
DeAnne Dotson, Carole Dubber, Olga Dovoric, Doyle Long, Brenda Gay, Mary Louise Gray, Jan Johnson, Rachel Masimore, Jorge Montoya, Mike Rakouskas, Mary Elizabeth (Liz) Smith, Carol Winner

Friendship Force of Raleigh  
Areas of Interest Form – 2020



friendship force  
RALEIGH

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name Here

\_\_\_\_ I would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors in the future.

The following are committees that need members to help in various ways  
Please **check if you would be interested in serving on one or more committees.**  
Again, this is not a commitment, just willingness in case you are asked.

- \_\_\_\_ Membership Committee – Here are some of the responsibilities:  
Development – develop and implement a recruitment plan, follow up on inquiries; Orientation of New Members – develop and implement a plan to welcome & orient new members; Develop and maintain materials and brochures for membership activities; Handle Membership Renewals
- \_\_\_\_ Activities Committee – some of the responsibilities:  
Plan and organize activities of the club, including socials, other than journeys; Plan Welcome and Farewell parties for inbound journeys as requested; Plan Holiday Party
- \_\_\_\_ First Sundays at Five – Be a Host for a First Sunday Social
- \_\_\_\_ Newsletter – assist with obtaining/writing/editing articles
- \_\_\_\_ Facebook – assist with posting appropriate articles, photos, to FB
- \_\_\_\_ Nominating Committee – serve on the nominating committee
- \_\_\_\_ Membership Concerns – send cards, notes, acknowledgements as needed

Inbound Journeys:

- \_\_\_\_ Host or Co-host Coordinator (be in charge of planning/coordinating overall)
- \_\_\_\_ Planning Committee – assist Host Coordinator with planning itinerary
- \_\_\_\_ Home host; circle one or more: for 4 5 6 nights
- \_\_\_\_ Day host – accompany ambassadors for day's activities
- \_\_\_\_ Regional Dinner Coordinator – organize volunteers & attendees for dinner
- \_\_\_\_ Regional Dinner Hosts – host a small group dinner

Outbound Journeys:

- \_\_\_\_ Host or Co-host Coordinator (be in charge of promoting journey, taking ambassador applications, organizing ambassadors, collecting money)

Please mail this form to Friendship Force of Raleigh, P. O. Box 21022, Raleigh, NC 27609. If you have not already renewed for 2020, please send this form with your renewal check to the same address.



# friendship force

RALEIGH

Newsletter  
December 2019

Experience Different Views  
Discover Common Ground

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF RALEIGH  
2020 Membership Renewal Form

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

If no change in data, just enter name and indicate no change.



Individual Data:

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Second Adult Family Member:

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Dues for Calendar Year January 1 – December 31, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 Family membership (Two adults living in the same household with or without minor children)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 Individual membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Student membership

Please make check payable to Friendship Force of Raleigh and mail to: Friendship Force of Raleigh, P. O. Box 21022, Raleigh, NC 27609

An order Form Link for Name Badges can be found at:  
<https://thefriendshipforce.org/resources/>

Visit us on line: <https://www.facebook.com/friendshipforceraleigh/>