



a world of friends is a world of peace

President's Message



Friends,

As we start the second quarter of 2023, let's celebrate spring, friendship, and goodwill for all. Hopefully, the beauty of spring brings you joy and a sense of fresh beginnings. Each morning as I walk my dog, I am treated to the colorful blooms of trees, early flowers and cheerful bird songs that lift my spirits.

Friendship Force provides us with the framework to share the beauty of our area and to get to know one another on local, national and international levels. Our members enjoy the opportunity to mix and mingle at First Sunday events. Our club is planning a journey to Omaha, NE, in August and will welcome ambassadors from Vancouver, CN, in September. While we do not have an international outbound journey planned, there are many opportunities to join with other clubs and their destinations. In addition, Friendship Force has opened the door to individual travel between members.

Read on to learn more about your club, your friends and future opportunities.

In friendship, *Judy Wright*

Upcoming April Activity – A Visit to a Hindu Temple

On April 12th and 19th, club members and guests are invited to go on a cultural outing to the Sri Venkateswara Temple of North Carolina, the largest Hindu temple in North America. It is located at 121 Balaji Place, off Chapel Hill Rd., near Morrisville, NC. The temple does not offer a structured tour, but we are welcome to tour the grounds and temple. Shoes will need to be removed before entering the temple. Jan Johnson will be the point person on the 12th and Judy Wright on the 19th.



We will meet onsite at 10:50 am and begin our visit at 11:00 am. Carpooling can be arranged. Following the temple visit, plan to join us for lunch at a local Indian restaurant. If the 12th is your preferred day, contact Jan Johnson, 919-648-3231, john115@bellsouth.net; if the 19th is a better day, contact Judy Wright, 919-345-0031, judywright@gmail.com.

Check out these links: <https://legacy.wral.com/largest-hindu-temple-in-north-america-unveiled-in-cary/20536970/>; <https://www.svtemplenc.org/#/home>

A Special First Sunday Event in May that You Don't Want to Miss



The next *First Sunday @ 5* event will be held on May 7th at the Johnson farm, located at 502 Temple Johnson Road, Zebulon, N C 27597. The little lambs are awaiting! Currently there are four bottle babies, multiple sets of twins, singles, and one set of triplets! Food will include smoked pulled pork, fried chicken and sides including coleslaw, potato salad, and hush puppies. Both sweet and unsweetened tea will be available. Please feel free to bring your favorite beverages. The cost per person is \$10. There is plenty of parking, both at the red barn on the grass and in the backyard. Be advised to wear washable shoes if you want to get down and dirty on the farm (sheep pasture). Call Jan at 919-648-3231 with any questions.

We will need a count of who is coming. Please RSVP to Molly Kiefer @ molly.kiefer@icloud.com and plan to pay at the event. Unless you cancel ahead of time, you will need to pay your fair share even if you don't attend as the money will already be spent on the food.

2023 First Sunday at Five Schedule

We have had much fun at our *First Sundays @ 5* so far in 2023 - Alexander's Mediterranean Cuisine, Bunco party, Cantina18 dinner, Oakwood dinner and walk. Thanks to all who have hosted and participated.

Below are the dates and hosts for *First Sunday @ 5* for the remainder of the year. We look forward to seeing you and welcome anyone else who might be interested. Watch for your email invitation each month. See you soon.

May 7 - Lambing picnic hosted by Jan Johnson

June 4 - Judy Wright

July - no meet up due to the holiday and summer vacations

August 7 - Karen Brown

September 11 - Judy Allen

October 2 - Fay Krapf and Bob Wells

November 6 - Mary Louise Gray and Doyle Long



An Interesting Tale by Carol Reilly

This month's Friendship Force dinner was held at the Oakwood home of Pat DeBoer and Curt Youngblood. It was the perfect occasion for intelligent conversation, good laughs, relaxation and even exercise. After dinner Pat led several of us on a walk around the neighborhood on this lovely spring evening.

At my request, the walk led us past 400 N. Polk St, a home where my sister Linda, our mom, and I had lived in a room upstairs. At that time in 1957 it was a boarding house where we stayed for the summer. We had moved from Seattle to Raleigh following my father's death. Other boarders lived on the 2nd floor and we all shared the one bathroom. The nice landlady allowed our family to use the upstairs kitchen to keep food and prepare meals.



Our walking group was fascinated by this bit of family lore and insisted on calling it "Carol's house." I became famous for all of five minutes because I had lived in THE VERY house where a Lauren Bacall/Gregory Peck movie was filmed in the 70's.



I joked that Oakwood wasn't designated as "historic" at that time since the formerly elegant homes had been converted into boarding houses after WWII. Many homes were shabby looking and the yards were not well-maintained. Of course, today most of the homes have been restored to their former glory and the neighborhood hosts events at varying times during the year.

Outbound Journey to Omaha, NE

Time to mark your calendars and plan to make this journey with us. Space is limited. Tentative dates are August 22 - 28, 2023. Karen Brown is Ambassador Coordinator, assisted by Judy Wright.

See below for a list of possible activities. An intriguing one happening during our scheduled visit is the Hippie Fest. Here's part of the description: Featuring live music, bohemian shopping, vintage hippie car show, DIY tie-dye, giant bubble garden, cirque performers, kids activities, drum circles, delicious food, and more. Sound groovy?

The Friendship Force of Greater Omaha Welcomes you to the Big O!

Here is a brief look at the possibilities offered by FFGO. It scratches the surface, and we hope beckons you.

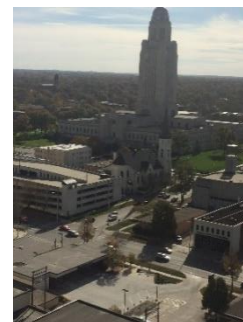
Tour Omaha's downtown walking tour with Omaha's History and interesting trivia presented by FFGO member, John Stolte, with a stop at Pioneer Courage Park, Gene Leahy Mall, and the Old Market. Spend an afternoon at the Durham Western Heritage Museum to learn more of Omaha's history and influence of the railroad in developing western territories.



The Henry Doorly Zoo, with 100 acres of featured exhibits, takes tremendous pride in conservation, preservation, and education as it thrills and fills visitors with wonder. Train or tram rides will help you enjoy the expansive gardens but FFGO member, Gordon Todd hopes to be your engineer on the 119, the zoo's steam engine. Less than a mile from the zoo nature lovers will enjoy the Lauritzen Garden beds and featured gardens, have lunch at the Conagra Café in the Arboretum, and visit the Conservatory.



Lincoln, Nebraska's capital city, is less than an hour away from Omaha. The capitol building is unusual amongst capitol buildings as it rises 400 feet and can be seen for miles. Free tours are provided on the hour. Also, in Lincoln the **International Quilt Study Center and Museum** features three floors of priceless treasures in color and design. The world's largest known collection of quilts with visiting exhibits. About 25 miles from Omaha, the **Strategic Air Command and Aerospace Museum** never fails to amaze visitors and just across the road the **Wildlife Safari Park** (an extension of the Henry Doorly Zoo) is open year-round. Near the SAC museum, Ashland, NE, is step back in time. Relax as you stroll the sidewalks and shops, then stop for wine at its local winery.



Art lovers enjoy visiting the **Hot Shops Art Center housing Crystal Forge Glass Works** and features over 50 artist studios. Landmark buildings and churches include **St. Cecilia's Cathedral** (Catholic), **Trinity Cathedral** (Episcopalian), **Crook House**, home of General George Crook, and a visit across the Missouri to Council Bluffs, Iowa, enjoy the famous **Dodge House**

(from mid 1800s), the unusual **Squirrel Cage Jail** and the **Union Pacific Museum**.



The **Boys Town Museum and Tour** is always a highlight. Founded in 1917, Father Flanagan's downtown Home for Boys was moved to the "country" farm in 1921. It still flourishes today. And yes, it is a town, with its own mayor and fire department! You will enjoy this extraordinary story and place. **Doyd Memorial Chapel** is open to the public and houses Father Flanagan's tomb.

Inbound Journey from Metro Vancouver, CN

On Sept. 25, fourteen members from the Vancouver, Canada, Friendship Force Club will arrive at RDU for a six-night stay. While activities are in the planning stage, the IBMA World of Bluegrass Festival is definitely on the itinerary and a trip to the historic town of Bath is being considered. If the trip to Bath becomes a reality, members will be invited to meet and carpool, eliminating the need for all hosts to drive. When contacted, please consider home hosting, day hosting, or "dinner" hosting during this inbound journey. We can show our neighbors to the north some real southern hospitality. Jan Johnson & Jane Fellows are the Host Coordinators.

FFI's Journey Catalog

Be sure to sign in to the FFI Member Portal to view the current journey catalog. There you can see a list of the journeys seeking additional ambassadors, a complete list of all the journeys scheduled to take place, and a listing of individual journeys. The latter is something new this year. Here is some general information, but you can learn more through the Resources on the Member Portal.

Friendship Force Individual Journeys offer opportunities for members to host and travel in addition to our Club-to-Club and Special Journeys. The same guidelines apply: Hosts and ambassadors adhere to the Friendship Force Code of Conduct and keep in mind the Friendship Force Ambassador pledge.

If you would like to offer an Individual Hosting Opportunity, please fill out the Individual Hosting Application on the website. FFI will announce individual hosting opportunities in the Journey Catalog and members can apply and will be selected by the host. Matches can be made all year round.

If you have questions about how to use the portal, please contact Judy Wright, 919.345.0031, for help.

Friendship Force International's Pledge

As a member of the Friendship Force, I recognize that I can make a difference. I have a mission to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching. 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 advanced. *I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.*

Save the Date

December 7, 2023 – **Holiday Party** at the NC State University Club.
Arrangements by Molly Kiefer and Doyle Long.

Coronation Garden Party

You are invited to a coronation party. This invitation comes from Julia Carpenter who is Director of Communications for the Daughters of the British Empire. You probably recognize Julia for her outstanding work on our PBS station.

Saturday, May 06, 2023

**The Executive Mansion,
Raleigh North Carolina**

Registration deadline – April 24, 2023

A Coronation Garden Party

Celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty King
Charles III and

Her Majesty Queen Consort Camilla with commonwealth supporters
in Raleigh, North Carolina.



For Tickets: <https://www.raleighsistercities.org/event-details/a-coronation-garden-party>

Board of Directors and Officers

President: Judy Wright
Vice President: Jan Johnson
Treasurer: Mary Louise Gray
Secretary: Karen Brown

Directors: Jane Fellows
Brenda Gay
Molly Kiefer
Doyle Long
Liz Smith
Donna Steele
Bob Wells

New members are always welcome. The application form is at the end of this newsletter. Out of these dues, we will pay \$30 per member to Friendship Force International to help support the operations of the organization.

THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF RALEIGH 2023 MEMBERSHIP

Today's date:

APPLICATION/RENEWAL

<https://www.facebook.com/friendshipforceraleigh/>

<http://www.friendshipforceraleighnc.org/>

Choose one:

New application _____

Renewal _____

A. INDIVIDUAL DATA

Last name _____ First name _____ M.I. _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Primary phone (____) _____ Secondary phone (____) _____

E-mail _____ Employer _____

Profession (or former prof.) _____

B. SECOND ADULT - Family Membership

Last name _____ First name _____ M.I. _____

Primary phone (____) _____ Secondary phone (____) _____

E-mail _____ Employer _____

Profession (or former prof.) _____

C. TALENTS OR INTERESTS YOU COULD SHARE WITH FRIENDSHIP FORCE

Foreign languages spoken _____

Countries visited or have knowledge _____

Talents and skills _____

Countries you would like to visit _____

D. MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR CALENDAR YEAR JAN. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2022

_____ \$65.00 *Family membership (Two adults living in
same household with or without minor children)

_____ \$40.00 *Individual membership

* Note that \$30pp of your dues will be paid to Friendship Force International as dues for the umbrella organization.
Please make check payable to Friendship Force of Raleigh and mail to: Mary Louise Gray, 2210 Nash Place
North, Wilson, NC 27896