



friendship force

BIG CANOE -  
NORTH GEORGIA

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<http://ffbcng.org>

March 2020  
Newsletter

CHANGING THE WAY YOU  
SEE THE WORLD

## Coming Events



March 15, 2020

Play in Cumming, followed by dinner at Ridge Restaurant

April 27, 2020

Joint Incoming journey from West Alajuela, Costa Rica, and Des Moines, Iowa.

June 28, 2020

Picnic with Lake Hartwell club

August, 2020

Wine tasting in Cumming

September, 2020

Open World

October 15, 2020

Outgoing journey to Trujillo, Peru.



### A Word from Sherry

Hello, my Friendship Force Friends! If you did not go with us to the interclub social at Callaway Gardens, you missed a fun time. We made new friends and revisited friends from the past. I don't dare use the words "old" friends.

Marie brought a birthday cake for Huw and we were happy to wish him many returns of the day. Go to our website, <http://ffbeng.org/> and click on **HISTORY** on the left side to see pictures from the event. Many, many thanks to Mary Ellen for making it happen!

Speaking of our website, Ray updates it monthly and the history section always has something new, including newspaper articles by Bob A and Mary Ellen. I look at it when I receive the newsletter email from Ray, just to make sure I didn't miss anything.

Another link on the club website is for **FORMS**, including the check request form. We make extra work for Robert when we do not fill out this form but just hand him receipts for reimbursement. Please keep a copy of this form handy and fill it out before giving Robert a receipt. <http://ffbeng.org/forms/VOUCHER%20REQUEST%20FOR%20MONEY%20OFF.pdf>

A few members mentioned issues with the FFI suggested travel insurance company, especially when dealing with medical reimbursement. You are always free to get travel insurance elsewhere, but I

must say that typically there are no problems with Nationwide. Allison Lindsey at FFI is always available for assistance. <https://www.friendshipforce.org/trip-insurance/>

Details about club activities and journeys will appear elsewhere in the newsletter. Our club owes many thanks to the planners and doers that make everything happen!

Your Prez, Sherry



### A Word from our Membership Chairperson

Reminder: Annual dues should have been paid by now: \$30 for an individual, or \$60 for a couple. If you haven't yet paid, please fill out the form attached to this newsletter and mail with your check to the address on the form.

Bob



## Future Meetings

The March meeting will be March 15. It will consist of attending a play in Cumming, followed by dinner at Ridge Restaurant. Members are welcome to attend only one of the two parts of the meeting.



## Upcoming Journeys

### AN UPDATE OF OUR 2020 CLUB YEAR

#### **Journey 20171 from West Alajuela, Costa Rica, to Big Canoe, April 27 to May 4, 2020:**

Peggy Anderson, [peggysue48@windstream.net](mailto:peggysue48@windstream.net), is the Journey Coordinator for our club. She has been in contact with the JC from the West Alajuela club. They anticipate 13 to 15 ambassadors. They are working on coordinating with the West Alajuela club's visit to Charlotte, i.e., the transportation from Charlotte to Atlanta.

#### **Journey 20324 from Greater Des Moines to Big Canoe, April 27 to May 4, 2020:**

Bob Anderson, [bobanderson48@windstream.net](mailto:bobanderson48@windstream.net), is the Journey Coordinator for our club. He has been in contact with the JC from Greater Des Moines. They are working on coordinating with Greater Des

Moines' visit to Knoxville. At this point, Greater Des Moines indicates that they will send 11 ambassadors.

We are fortunate to have the Peggy and Bob team pulling this 3-way visit together for us. Both are experienced Journey Coordinators. With a potential total of 30 we will need everyone to help with these journeys. **Please consider what role you can play on the journey committees and let Peggy and/or Bob know.**

#### **Journey 20044 Big Canoe to Trujillo, Peru, October 15, 2020:**

An updated itinerary covering the Journey to Trujillo, Peru - and the optional guided tour of major Peruvian sites preceding the visit to Trujillo - was mailed to our BCNG club members on March 1. The estimated cost of the home-hosted Journey to Trujillo, Peru is \$1,400 per person (or \$1,500 with single occupancy at the Lima airport hotel). This estimate includes round trip airfare from Atlanta to Lima and round trip from Lima to Trujillo, first-night stay at the Wyndham hotel (\$200) at the Lima airport, and fees to the Trujillo club and FFI headquarters. Understand that as of March 1 the Trujillo coordinator has not provided a detailed activity itinerary or related costs for our ambassadors, so that part of the estimate (based on recent Lansing, MI club Journey) may need to be adjusted. Refer to the emailed itinerary for more details.

Departure is the evening of October 14 (or October 7 for those opting for the pre-Journey excursion) and arriving back in Atlanta the morning of October 23. The optional pre-Journey excursion cost estimate is \$2,757 per person in addition to \$1300 cost for the Trujillo Journey (the \$200/room first night hotel is part of the pre-Journey excursion pricing).

Note that it is not permitted to participate in the optional pre-Journey excursion without the home-hosted Journey to Trujillo. Thus a decision to opt for the excursion also defines your commitment to the home-hosted Journey to Trujillo.

It is now time-critical that we finalize your decision concerning the pre-Journey excursion, because we must arrange for the travel agent to book the transportation and lodging, including admission to historical sites that involve restricted daily visitor numbers. Please contact our Journey Coordinator, Phil Waldrop ASAP if you do plan to participate in the optional pre-Journey excursion.



If you do not opt for the excursion, it is nonetheless also time-critical to communicate your decision about the home-hosted Journey because we must announce to the Alabama clubs the number of ambassadors needed to fulfill the minimum of 12 participants that can be hosted by the Trujillo club (or 15 possible if the Trujillo club determines the availability of hosts). This announcement to the Alabama clubs of course also involves the most time-critical head count for the optional excursion.

In summary, to ensure that the participant records are accurate at this time, it is requested that ALL FFI-BCNG club members communicate (or re-communicate/confirm) ASAP their intentions. At this point the records reflect that following have declared they will NOT be participating in the October 2020 Journey to Peru: Ray & Margie Bowyer, Diane Briscoe, Jean M. Edwards, Barry & Linda Kadechuk, Robert & Margaret Logan, Ches & June Tredway.

We will host another **Open World Ukrainian delegation in September**. That gives us a very full year in 2020.

## Callaway Resort & Gardens Get-Together

The Callaway Get-Together was designed as an avenue for communication among three clubs in a relaxed setting. We can better fill our Journeys to capacity if we can connect to our southeastern clubs. In this case the 3 clubs participating were Big Canoe/North Georgia, Birmingham and Huntsville. All 3 club presidents were represented, and the number of club members were about equal: 14 from Big Canoe plus 2 members driving to Pine Mountain just for Thursday, 15 from Huntsville, and 14 from Birmingham, a total of 43 for the Thursday and Friday night stay.

We left Thursday, Feb. 20 and returned Saturday, Feb. 22. We all stayed in the Villas, and partied in 7 villas, or as many as we could – we all brought nibbles for hors d'oeuvres, breakfast foods, and adult beverages; in fact, we brought so much we could have skipped dinner on the second night. We didn't skip any meals, though, or desserts, including a big birthday cake for one senior member who was celebrating all weekend, as we had dinners booked at Carriage & Horses on Thursday and Cricket's Restaurant on Friday. We all loved Carriage & Horses, an event venue, including the music and singing of "Let There Be Peace on Earth."

The 3 or 4-bedroom villas we stayed in had kitchens, dining/living rooms, and ample bathroom space for each large bedroom.

Friday was a day for whatever you wanted to do. FDR's Little White House was on the agenda for many of us, and the Butterfly Center also had many visitors.

We want to do this again in the future, but I will bring less food the next time (Alan's blueberry/pecan pancakes were welcomed on Friday morn-

ing, and Sherry's eggwiches were a hit on Saturday morning!

Mary Ellen Johnson



© dak

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

#### April

- 3 Nancy Davis
- 4 Bob Anderson
- 9 Jean Goggin
- 18 Ray Bowyer



### Cares and Concerns

Margie Bowyer fell in her apartment on February 26, breaking her left arm. She is recovering as expected. She expects to be able to attend the March meeting.

Please remember to inform me if you become aware of any care or concern.

Jeannette Waldrop 706-299-4972©

### Opportunity Best of Scotland #20407

Price based on double occupancy is \$3,724 Single supplement is \$750

**Price includes:**

- FFI fees
- 10 nights in handpicked hotels
- Breakfast daily
- 1 lunch
- 4 dinners with beer or wine
- Expert Tour Director
- Private deluxe motor coach
- Guided sightseeing and select entrance fees

**Not included:**

- Gratuities for English speaking guides/drivers
- Personal items on tour such as phone calls, laundry, etc.
- Travel insurance (required by FFI)

**Payments:**

- Deposit of \$500 is due upon acceptance of application
- 50% of balance is due April 10th, 2020

- Final payment is due May 10th, 2020

**Cancellation policy:**

Full refund is available if cancellation occurs by March 31st; After March 31st no refunds are available.

**FFI Travel Insurance:**

<https://www.thefriendshipforce.org/insurance/>

**Flights information:**

Departure flights: August 29<sup>th</sup> and arrive in Glasgow on August 30<sup>th</sup>

Return flights for main tour: Morning to afternoon Sep 9<sup>th</sup> out of EDI

Return flights for extension: Morning to afternoon Sep 11<sup>th</sup> out of EDI



We welcome information for future issues of this newsletter. To make it informative and interesting we need information about what is going on in the club. If you have something you could share, such as committee updates, member updates, or photos of your recent travels, please share it. Send by e-mail or telephone call to the newsletter editor:

Ray Bowyer

[raybowyer@earthlink.net](mailto:raybowyer@earthlink.net)

770-366-3736

Deadline for the April issue is April 13, 2020.



**friendship force**  
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NORTH GEORGIA

## *2020 Membership Renewal Application*

*Name(s)* \_\_\_\_\_

*Address* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Telephone#* \_\_\_\_\_

*Cell Phone (s)#* \_\_\_\_\_

*Email Address(es)* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Birthdays* \_\_\_\_\_

*Membership Dues*     \_\_\_ \$30 per year Individual

                                 \_\_\_ \$60 per Year Couple

**Return To: Robert Logan, Treasurer, 741 Oakdale Rd, Canton, GA  
30114**