



friendship force

BIG CANOE -
NORTH GEORGIA

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<http://ffbcng.org>

**July 2020
Newsletter**

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD**

Coming Events



July 19, 2020

Annual Picnic.

August, 2020

Wine tasting in Cumming

2021

Outgoing journey to Brazil

[Editor's note: Obviously, these are highly subject to change, depending on the progress of COVID-19]

Please don't miss the letter from the board chairperson of Friendship Force International at the back of this newsletter.



A Few Words From Sherry

Hello FFBCNG friends! I hope you have been safe and healthy over the past month. Here is the latest news from our club and from FFI.

Board Meeting: The board is scheduled to meet by Zoom on Monday, July 13, at 2:00 p.m. Ray Bowyer will be our Zoom master. If you are not on the board, but would like to participate, please let Ray know and he can send the login information to you. Members are always welcome!

Club meetings: We had nineteen participants in our June meeting by Zoom. Linda K. put together a slide show of some of our past journeys and Open World delegations that brought back fond memories for all of us. Many thanks to Linda for creating this memory treasure and to Ray for posting it on our website. If you did not participate in the meeting, be sure to take a look on the website.

Our next meeting will be the picnic on July 19th. Look for more information from Peggy A. and her activities committee in this newsletter.

2019 Open World Alumni Event: Veronika Gryschenko, the facilitator for the 2019 delegates, sent us this email: "The Open World Program has started a series of virtual alumni events, and I thought that the Big Canoe community would like to participate in one of them."

"This would be an online video meeting on the Zoom platform between you and the delegates that visited Big Canoe in October 2019 with the goal to

reconnect for an hour or two and discuss the current whereabouts."

"All the delegates are interested in doing the meeting since they had an excellent time in your community and feel sorry that some of the host families had to cancel their trip to Ukraine due to the current circumstances. I hope you will share the enthusiasm. We suggest the event taken place at the end of July or the beginning of August."

Barry K. will be coordinating this event with Veronika.

Plans for 2020: The club activities for the rest of the year depend on the Governor's guidelines and your comfort with venturing out. FFI has suggested a number of fun Zoom activities. If you have any suggestions, please let Peggy know,

Plans for 2021: Our 2020 journeys have been postponed until 2022. But we have great plans for 2021:

We have been matched with two Brazilian clubs, Tere-Rio and Itanhaem. Of course, this journey depends on the status of the coronavirus in Brazil.

In the matching process, the Las Vegas, Nevada club requested to visit us. Unfortunately, that club has disbanded due to lack of membership.

Thanks to Bob A. for arranging a journey to Des Moines for August of 2021 and a return visit from the Des Moines club in April of 2022.

Our Open World program from 2020 will take place in 2021 with the theme, **National Park Management and Mapping**.

News from FFI: In a recent email to members, Allison Lindsey announced Friendship Force Virtual Experiences, an exciting array of cultural and learning experiences. Ray forwarded that email to you. If you have any comments or questions, please let me know.

Are you signed up for the FFI newsletter? If not, you can sign up here <https://friendshipforce.us12.list-manage.com/subscribe/post?u=ba1bffc1cec3dcb20c97569d1&id=a5eb5f7351>



Future Meetings

July 19th – Many of you indicated that you would be interested in a picnic. The Wildcat Pavilion at Big Canoe has been reserved for us from 4:00 to 7:00. We are all still watching the COVID-19 numbers as we do not want to jeopardize anyone's health. Please watch your emails for a go or no-go. If it is a go, we will cook hamburgers and hot dogs and have everyone contribute salad or dessert. We appreciate your patience; we are living in crazy times.



Upcoming Journeys

Barry and Bob are trying to set up a zoom reunion with the Ukrainian delegates in the near future. He has responded to Veronika but has not heard back as yet. It will be with the delegates and their hosts. The Ukrainian delegates have asked for this reunion.

We have been assigned an incoming journey from Las Vegas and an outgoing journey to two clubs in

Brazil in 2021. Watch future newsletters for details.

Friendship Force International announced the following schedule for 2022 planning:

- August 26—distribution of the 2022 Inbound Host Availability Form.
- September 30—Inbound Host Availability Form Due.
- October 10—Distribution of the 2022 Outbound Request Form
- November 13—Outbound Request Form due
- February 28—Matches sent out



June Meeting

The June meeting was a virtual meeting, using the Zoom tool. Thirteen cameras appeared, some with couples and some with individual members in view. Linda Kadecuk had prepared a wonderful video of some of our recent journeys, which was shared. The video is available on the club web site (www.ffbcng.org) in case you missed it or would like to see it again.



August Birthdays

- | | |
|----|--------------|
| 18 | Jim Campbell |
| 29 | Fred Mullins |



From the Desk of CARES & CONCERN'S LADY

Jeannette Waldrop

Let's Talk Parkinson's Disease

Parkinson's is a degenerative neurological disorder for which there is no cure.

It is caused by a lack of Dopamine in the brain and is generally not diagnosed until the level of

Dopamine has declined by approximately 80% of the normal level. Common symptoms include tremors or shaking, difficulty in swallowing, difficulty in walking and with balance and others too numerous to mention.

This is a timely topic for Friendship Force of Big Canoe/North Georgia because five of our current

and/or past members are living with PD (including yours truly-diagnosed in December, 2019).

The good news is that HELP is available in the form of the Parkinsons Foundation. This wonderful non-profit organization supplies information, resources and a host of contacts that are of practical help to patients and caregivers. I am enrolled in their voice project and boxing programs at New Beginnings in Jasper, GA. (706-253-6287).

If you or a friend or family member are living with Parkinson's Disease (PD) do the patient or their caregiver a favor by letting them know about the foundation. You can go online and contact them at www.parkinson.org. or call the Helpline at 1-800-473-4636.

Locally, a Big Canoe resident, Marie Head, has been appointed to the Foundation's People with Parkinson's Action Council. Marie invites those with questions to give her a call at 770-940-0150 or use gacarepartner@gmail.com

Sharing information is HOW WE HELP each other.

Other Cares and Concerns

The following message was received from the daughter-in-law of Harry Yarbrough: "We have Harry living with us now. He could not stay in assisted living any more because of worsening health. His Parkinson's is really moving rapidly."

Our president Sherry Wileman is having knee surgery July 17. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

Please remember to inform me if you become aware of any cares or concerns.

Jeannette Waldrop 706-299-4972©



Members Moving

As described above, Harry Yarbrough has moved. His new address is 203 Links Crossing North #90, Ninety Six, South Carolina 29666.

Tom Eubanks has moved. His new address is Kennesaw Place Senior Living, 2800 Jiles Road, Kennesaw, Georgia 30144.



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

770-366-3736

Deadline for the August issue is August 2, 2020.

A Message from Friendship Force International

Over the past two months, members from around the world have shown amazing solidarity and support for the ongoing mission of Friendship Force beyond the pandemic. Collectively, you have raised more than \$300,000 USD. Although fundraising will continue through the end of the year, we are asking those who have been considering a monetary gift to FFI to make one now. This will give the Board of Directors a clear picture for financial planning in 2021 and beyond as we assess recovery. It will also mark a shift in communications as we retire the formal drive for donations and focus more fully on virtual activities and programs to support club cohesiveness.

For all who have given already to Friendship Force, THANK YOU! For those who have been considering a gift to FFI, I hope you consider one today!



Bobbie Mulholland
Bobbie Mulholland
2020 Board Chair