



friendship force
BIG CANOE -
NORTH GEORGIA

August
2021
Newsletter

a world of friends is a world of peace

<http://ffbcng.org>

Coming Events

August 25, 2021	Joint meeting with Western North Carolina club in Greenville, South Carolina.
September 26, 2021	Regular monthly meeting at IHOP in Canton
October 7, 2021	Reunion of Republic of Georgia Open World group
October 28, 2021	Inbound journey from Des Moines, Iowa
November 1, 2021	Farewell dinner with Des Moines club
May, 2022	Outbound journey to Des Moines, Iowa
October, 2022	Outbound journey to San Antonio, Texas
2023	Incoming journey from San Antonio, Texas

sign up for the Friendship Force International web site: To sign up, connect to https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/users/sign_in, then click SIGN UP.

The club has established the policy that all ambassadors on journeys and all hosts must provide proof of vaccination for Covid-19.



A Few Words From Sherry

Our first joint meeting of the year on July 24th was a huge success! The Lake Hartwell club was well represented with thirteen members and so was FFBCNG with twenty-seven. The Northeast Georgia History Center was very accommodating, with an indoor, air-conditioned meeting room for a private lecture. The museum is chock full of fascinating displays and information.

We dined at Cheddars Restaurant and were home before dark, as promised. Many, many thanks to June Tredway for making the arrangements with the museum and Peggy Anderson for finding Cheddars.

Have you seen articles about our club in local newspapers? Those are the result of continuing efforts by Mary Ellen Johnson to publicize our activities. Thank you, Mary Ellen!!

FULLY VACCINATED

As a reminder, everyone in contact with our incoming/outgoing journeys and joint

meetings must provide proof of being fully vaccinated (COVID-19). Everyone may send that proof to me in any way that is convenient, and I will keep those documents as on file.

AUGUST PLANS

Bev Grimes and I have been working with representatives of the Western North Carolina club to put together a joint meeting in Greenville, SC, on August 25 and 26. Information on the hotel and activities was sent out to our club members on July 28 and August 5. The group rate for the hotel ended on August 10, but if you want to join us, contact me and I will see if I can get another room.

As of August 9 we have 6 couples attending from our club, with a possibility of two more. The Western NC club will be sending 6 people, plus two more for the Thursday morning activities.

NEXT OPEN WORLD REUNION

On October 7th we will be holding a reunion on Zoom with the delegates from the Republic of Georgia who visited us in 2017. Delegates: Nana Bagalishvili, Ketino Khvedelidze, Shalva Lagadze, Mindia Kvtaradze, Tinatin Gholadze and Facilitator: Nini Panjikidze. We will hear more about that in the coming months.

FFBCNG.org

I have been talking to you at every meeting about the club's newsletter, put together and sent out monthly by Ray Bowyer, with contributions from board members. You can view the current and past newsletters on our club's website.

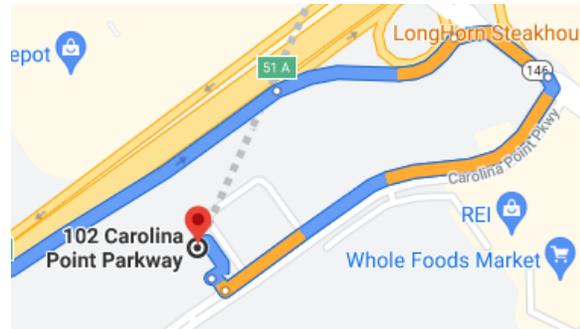
Ray does an outstanding job of keeping

the website updated with photos and reports on meetings, as well as club history as documented in newspaper articles and photos. In the members only section you can find bios of our members in the membership list. The “Summary History” of previous journeys begins in 1985. As always, a BIG thank you to Ray for all he does for our club!



on the patio by the river at Passerelle Bistro at 12:30 and then home. You should have received details in an email from Sherry; if not, please call.

Here are the directions to the hotel: find your way to Interstate 85 in South Carolina. Take exit 51 for Interstate 385; follow signs for South Carolina 146/Woodruff Road. Turn right onto Woodruff Road. Turn right onto Carolina Point Parkway. Make two more right turns.



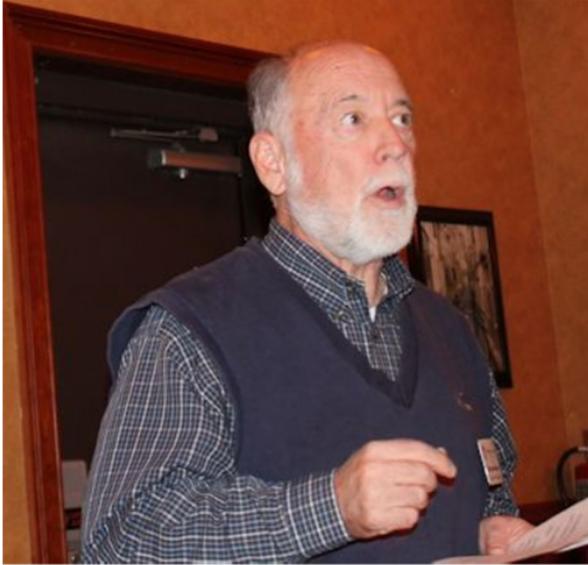
Future Meetings

August 25th – 26th –we will be having a joint meeting in Greenville, South Carolina, with the Western Carolina Friendship Force Club. On Wednesday the 25th, we will meet and greet each other at the hotel (Homewood Suites at 102 Carolina Point Parkway) from 2 to 4. Afterward, we will all go to Liberty Tap Room and Grill, a restaurant nearby for dinner. Our reservations are for 4:30. We have reserved seats at the Greenville Drive stadium (minor league baseball team) for a game at 7:05. All of this is within walking distance! Breakfast at the hotel on Thursday morning and then a scavenger hunt in downtown Greenville with members from both clubs. There will be prizes! Lunch

September 26th (NOTE: 4TH SUNDAY) – our monthly meeting will be at IHOP in Canton from 4 to 6. This will be primarily a business meeting to prepare all of us for the incoming journey from Des Moines in October.



November 1st – Club Event – Farewell Dinner with Des Moines -5 to 9- West Milford Farms.



Des Moines Inbound Journey

As many of you know, we are scheduled to host 13 members from the Des Moines Friendship Force Club plus one member from the Cedar Rapids Club October 28 to November 2nd. Tim A. and I are serving as the Co-Journey Coordinators for this visit. Subcommittees have been formed and activated to plan for this visit. Tim and I would like to thank the following chairpersons (as well as their members) for their help:

Welcome Party—Sherry W. and Linda G.

Transportation—Dan H.

Welcome Packet—Jeannette W. and Sharon M.

Brochure—Linda K. and Pierre G.

Activities—Robert L.

Home Hosting—Marie W.

Dinner Hosting—Lenna A.

Day Hosting—Ray B.

Photography—Margaret L.

Farewell Party—Peggy A. and Margie B.

Many of you have already been contacted to actively participate in one or more events for this visit. As you can see, it takes a village!

All club members are invited to participate in any or all of the activities as well as the Farewell Party. More specifics will be revealed in the September Newsletter and meeting. Sneak preview and teaser; the Farewell Party is at a “new venue” on Monday night November 1st and you will not want to miss it!

Looking ahead, we are scheduled to visit the Des Moines club in spring 2022.



July Meeting

The July meeting was a joint meeting with the Lake Hartwell Club at the North Georgia History Center in Gainesville.



Yours in JOYS & CONCERNS,
Jeannette W.



September Birthdays

- | | |
|----|-------------|
| 11 | Lance M. |
| 14 | Phil W. |
| 15 | Robert L. |
| 16 | Claudia C. |
| 17 | Margaret L. |
| 23 | Beverly G. |
| 26 | Jim G. |
| 30 | Linda G. |

From the Cares & Concerns Desk:

Good News! Linda K's vein surgery went very well. She is truly on the mend

Longtime member, Harry Y., came to Big Canoe for a visit very recently. According to Reverend Terri K., this fine gentleman, who has been a friend to many of us, needs to be kept in our thoughts and prayers.

Also, in need of thought and prayer and even notes of encouragement is member Fred M. as he supervises his wife's hospice care. Thankfully, Fred is surrounded by a warm and loving family.

Several of our longtime members who by virtue of age related illness appreciate calls and cards from those they have traveled with and entertained. If you have a friendship established with Jim & Jean G., Von & Joe C., or Floyd and Charlotte H., please take a moment to drop them a note. They will be so happy to hear from you.

As always, if you know of a member who needs our support in the form of a card or call please contact me.



GET ALL THE NEWS FROM FFI
If you think you might be missing out

on the latest news from Friendship Force International, it is not because they're not talking! MyFF (short for my.friendshipforce.org) is the new home for all FFI news and information. Why only there?

Besides the greater security the new member site provides, they are now able to communicate not just with club leaders but also directly with members in **eight different languages!** Never before in the history of our global, multicultural, multi-lingual organization have we been able to benefit from this kind of communication.

With new functionality being added regularly, you will never miss an important announcement or piece of news, and all you need is an email address!

https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/users/sign_in



Next Issue

We want input from you. If you have any information that might be of interest to other club members, send it to your newsletter editor:

Ray Bowyer
raybowyer@earthlink.net
770-366-3736

Deadline for the September issue is September 12, 2021.



LINKS FOR INFORMATION ON FFI WEBSITE

Sign up for a Pen Pal from FFI (<https://blog.friendshipforce.org/ffi-pen-pals-beta/>).

FFI staff has been busy with creating the News and Media blog (<https://blog.friendshipforce.org/>) and the new Virtual Experiences page (<https://blog.friendshipforce.org/virtual-experiences/>).

These provide an excellent way to stay in touch with the international community.

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>