



friendship force
BIG CANOE -
NORTH GEORGIA

August
2023
Newsletter

a world of friends is a world of peace

<http://www.ffbcng.org>

Coming Events

August 13, 2023, at 4:00	Regular monthly meeting at home of Rich and Linda G. in Ellijay
October 2, 2023	Friendship Force World Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia
November 1, 2023	Incoming journey from San Antonio, Texas
June 2024	Outgoing journey to Calgary, Canada
September 2024	Outgoing journey to Utah
September 2024	Incoming journey from Tallahassee

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.



President's Letter

Beverly G. has agreed to take over the position of Cares and Concerns vacated by Jeannette W. Thanks to Jeannette for her past service in this function and we welcome Bev as the new CC Person. You can reach Bev at 706-237-2332, 248-240-9914, Beverly.grimes@gmail.com, or 10818 Big Canoe, Big Canoe, Georgia 30143

Plans are progressing well for the San Antonio Inbound in November. Thanks to Tim and Marilee as well as the committee members for developing what will be an excellent week for our visitors.

New Member Recruitment is going well thanks to the hard work by Bob. We appreciate Bob's effort in this area.

Our next meeting will be a special one with a visit to Carter's Lake and a BBQ dinner.

Enjoy the summer!!! Barry



Upcoming Meetings

August 13th – This is an important meeting for those of us involved in the San Antonio Journey. We will meet at Grapes and Ladders Winery (2317 Hwy 382, Ellijay) for wine tasting at 4:00. Then proceed “up the mountain” to Rich and Linda G.’s house (572 Doll Mountain Road., Ellijay) for a barbecue dinner catered by Bigun’s BBQ. The club will supply tea, soft drinks, dessert, and paper goods. If you want anything else to drink, BYOB. If you choose not to go to the winery, meet us at the house at 5:00. There will be a \$15 charge per person for the dinner. After our meal, we will discuss the plans for San Antonio and enjoy the view.

To get to the winery, first find your way to northbound Georgia 5/515 in the Jasper area. Take it to the intersection with highway 382, and turn west. The winery is 2.3 miles west of the traffic circle

To get from the winery to Glaser’s home, proceed west on Georgia 382 for 4.7 miles. Turn right onto Doll Mountain Road and go 0.6 mile to number 572.

THERE WILL BE NO MEETING IN SEPTEMBER AS MANY OF US ARE ATTENDING THE FFI CONFERENCE IN DUBROVNIK, CROATIA.



Upcoming Journeys

Incoming from San Antonio

Nov 1-6 Journey (FFI#23581) from San Antonio to Big Canoe/North Georgia.

As Co-Journey Coordinators, Marilee and I are delighted with the progress we've witnessed from all BCNG Journey Committees, in their early preparation for our incoming Ambassadors from Texas. One such example:

The Kadechuk's and their Home-Host Committee, have found lodging for our 14 guests, about 6 weeks before their deadline date. A huge thanks to those who have graciously offered to home-host!

It's amazing, the number of experienced, hardworking members we presently have in our club. Our club's vast experience and talent has created a "golden opportunity" for newer members to take on more leadership roles,

while being mentored by the best. To all of our mentors – a huge thank you!

There is still a need for additional volunteers in:

Airport Transportation (contact the Kadechuk's)

Day Hosting (contact Marilee Laufenberg)

Welcome/Farewell Party (contact Peggy Anderson and/or the Kadechuk's)

Our best to all,

Tim Anderson & Marilee Laufenberg

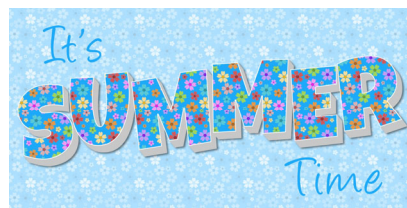


World Conference

The FFI World Conference will be in Dubrovnik, Croatia October 2-5, 2023. Pre and Post conference excursions are also offered.

To learn more about the conference, copy the following address into your favorite browser:

https://mailchi.mp/friendshipforce/wc2023update_030323?e=74b1ce724e





July Meeting

The July meeting was preceded by a play at the School Street Playhouse in Cumming, The Producers, a fabulous musical enjoyed by 8 members. We met afterwards for dinner at the Golden Palace restaurant in Cumming. Fifteen members, including a new member, DuAnn F., who joined at the meeting, were present. Barry K., President, presided.

Barry reminded members who plan to go on the Calgary Journey in 2024 to check their passports for the expiration date. July 27th is an Open World meeting so let Barry know if you want to attend.

Peggy, Activities, let us know August's meeting is at Carter's Lake, a BBQ meal for \$15.00; No meeting in September; October will be planned for possibly the 3rd Sunday at a new venue on Yellow Creek Road, depending on the charge.

After a dinner break, Tim A., JC for San Antonio Incoming, reported 14 members are coming for 5 nights; the deadlines are going well.



Report from Membership

I am pleased to announce two new members have joined our Club in July. Nancy Slinkard relocated to Woodstock from Colorado as well as DuAnn Findlay, who volunteers with Peggy and me at the Good Shepherd Clinic in Dawsonville (also goes to our church Christ the Redeemer).

DuAnn joined us at our July meeting at the Golden Palace restaurant in Cumming. Also Chuck LeCraw's membership has been activated post-Covid; as I recall, Chuck's mother was very active in Friendship Force in the 1980's and participated in several journeys with Wayne Smith!

Many of you may have not realize but long term member Aime' Barrs has also rejoined our Club post-Covid. We welcome Nancy, DuAnn and Chuck and look forward to greeting and meeting them at an upcoming meeting. Welcome back Aime!

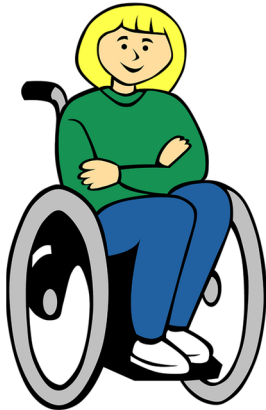
Bob Anderson, Membership Chair





September Birthdays

14	Phil W.
15	Robert L.
17	Margaret L.
23	Beverly G.
30	Linda G.



Cares and Concerns

Summer is not proving to be very enjoyable for our very own Mary Ellen Johnson. Mary Ellen has a ruptured Achilles tendon and is now in a cast. Doctors are saying that it will take three months for her recovery. Your thoughts and prayers for a swift recovery will be most welcome.

If you hear of someone in our club

who has had an illness or injury, who could use a note, card, or phone call, please let me know.

Your Cares & Concerns Lady,
Jeannette W.



Next Issue

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

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raybowyer@earthlink.net
770-366-3736
8592 Roswell Road #420
Sandy Springs, Georgia 30350

Deadline for the September issue is September 3, 2023.

FFI Finances

The Treasurer of the International Board of Directors reported positive progress Friendship Force International has made recovering from the devastating financial impacts of the global pandemic. With the backlog of journeys finally taking place, and more and more members eager to re-engage with inbound and outbound journeys, FFI's financials indicate a slow but steady climb back to pre-pandemic levels—currently at 70% of pre-pandemic levels.