



friendship force
BIG CANOE -
NORTH GEORGIA

November
2023
Newsletter

a world of friends is a world of peace

<http://www.ffbcng.org>

Coming Events

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| November 1, 2023 | Incoming journey from San Antonio, Texas |
| November 5, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. | Farewell party at Beach Club in Big Canoe |
| December 10, 2023, at 3:00 | Annual Holiday Party at home of Dan and Sherry |
| June 2024 | Outgoing journey to Calgary, Canada |
| September 2024 | Outgoing journey to Utah |
| Fall 2024 | Incoming journey from Tallahassee |
| October 2024 | North American Conference |

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

Several members from our club attended the International Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia. The conference was an excellent event and clubs from around the world were represented.

The FFI Organization has struggled through difficult times during and after the Covid pandemic and has emerged as a smaller organization. Some clubs have closed, many have reduced in size and some are "dormant," but the Friendship Force Spirit is strong. We look forward to a resumption of both Domestic and International Travel.

We will soon be hosting 14 Ambassadors from the San Antonio/Austin Texas Clubs and our Journey Directors (Tim and Marilee), along with their committees, have prepared a very exciting program for our visitors. Let's give our Texas Ambassadors a Big Canoe Welcome during their Nov. 1-6th stay with us.

Peggy is the Journey Director for our upcoming June, 2024 visit to Calgary, Canada. Let Peggy know if you have an interest in attending this Journey; it will be an exciting opportunity to visit Western Canada.

We also have an Outbound Journey Planned to Salt Lake City, Utah in September 2024. and we will receive an inbound journey from Tallahassee, Florida next autumn as well. We need a Journey Director for both of these events. Let me know if you are willing to organize one or both of these Journeys.

During a recent Board Discussion, the issue was raised about International Journey Opportunities for our club.

Our club looks forward to the resumption of travel to International Destinations with our journey to western Canada in 2024. This was our first choice for International Travel for 2024. You will remember that we ask our members to prioritize our club travel destinations each year for the following year.

Please give a lot of thought to your preferred club destinations when you receive the annual journey destinations survey. The result of this survey will determine the location of future Journeys.

There are other ways to travel to International Destinations. The FFI website shows travel opportunities which will allow members to travel with other clubs.

Asia has become a popular journey location (the next International Confer-

ence will probably be held in Asia). On the other hand, many clubs in Europe have closed or become dormant. So, travel to Europe has become difficult.

It is also possible to arrange for club to club journeys. If one club wants to travel to another and the destination club agrees, then arrangements can be made between the two clubs to visit one another (FFI fees apply).

Also, FFI offers Special Journeys; members can also arrange Individual Journeys.

There are many opportunities for International Travel. Also, it appears that Open World Opportunities will be limited in the future, so we as a club, and as individuals have options if International Travel is of interest to you.

Barry



Upcoming Meetings

November 5th - There is NO club meeting in November. However, all members are invited and encouraged to attend the Farewell Party at the Beach Club in Big Canoe from 4:00 to 9:00.

Dinner will be catered; everything will be provided. Entertainment is a popular one-man show in Big Canoe – Bill Pound. Likely, there will be some line dancing and Texas two-Step. There will be a \$30 fee per person for members.

December 10th – 3:00-5:00 -Holiday Party at Sherry & Dan's house. It will be potluck – more details to be announced.



Upcoming Journeys



Incoming from San Antonio

The San Antonio club will be with us- November 1 to 6. See the attachment to this newsletter for the details of the journey.

We hope that all members will join us at our Farewell Party on Sunday, November 5th from 4:00 - 8:00. We are having a catered dinner of Southern dishes, music by Bill Pound, and an evening of fun with the San Antonio Club. The total cost of the evening will be \$30 per person; this includes all food, drinks, and entertainment. You will be billed by the treasurer at a later time. Look for an evite coming up later to RSVP, so we can get an accurate head count.



Our visitors next week are mainly of Spanish Origin; their tradition is to celebrate the Day of The Dead on Nov. 1st. We are providing this board if they wish to post a photo of someone they want to remember. Anyone can post a photo if they wish topurely optional.



Outgoing to Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Planned for June 2024. Watch for more details.



Outgoing to Utah

Planned for September 2024. Please offer to be journey director, if you have an interest in this journey.



Dues Time

According to Sherry W., Friendship Force International is raising its annual fee by \$5.00 it charges to each Club (to a total of \$25 per member). At its meeting on October 26th, our Board approved the membership fee for new and recurring members to be \$40 per person, or \$80 per couple. The remaining \$15 per member is used for food, paper products, and other miscellaneous expenses that occur during the year. If you were a new member in 2023 your renewal date is 12 months from your starting date (recorded on the Membership Roster).

We hope you will all renew, and submit a check to our Treasurer, Sherry at the address on the renewal form (or give her a check during the Farewell Party for the San Antonio Journey). The renewal form is attached. If you have potential new members for our Club, please forward their contact in-

formation to me, and I will follow-up! Thanks!

Bob Anderson

Membership Chair



Election Time

It's time to elect officers for the 2024 calendar year. The nominating committee has submitted the following nominees:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| President | Barry K. |
| First vice-president/ president/elect | Tim A. |
| Second vice president | Joel L. |
| Secretary | Mary Ellen J. |
| Treasurer | Sherry W. |

A portion of the farewell party on November 5 has been designated the annual meeting, at which officers for next year will be elected. Nominations from the floor are allowed, provided the nominee consents to being nominated.



Whatsapp

Your officers are considering establishing Whatsapp as a standard for communication within the club.

WhatsApp, a ubiquitous messaging application, has revolutionized the way people communicate in the digital age. With over 2 billion users worldwide, it offers a plethora of benefits that have transformed the way we connect, collaborate, and share our lives.

First and foremost, WhatsApp has made communication more accessible and cost-effective. It enables users to send text messages, voice messages, make voice and video calls, and share media files, all over the internet.

WhatsApp has also redefined group communication. It allows for the creation of group chats, making it easier to coordinate activities, share information, and connect with multiple friends or colleagues simultaneously. This has proven invaluable for work-related discussions, event planning, or simply staying in touch with ex-

tended family.

Moreover, WhatsApp emphasizes privacy and security. End-to-end encryption ensures that only the intended recipient can access the messages, enhancing user confidence in the safety of their personal data.

Several club members have used WhatsApp for several years to communicate with the ambassadors that have visited Big Canoe without any privacy conflicts.



October meeting

The October meeting was held at the Canton Icehouse. President Barry K. presided. Peggy A. discussed the recent Friendship Force World Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia. An interesting fact is that since pre-COVID, 275 clubs have closed, some have paused their clubs' activities, and 60 countries are no longer accepting

Journeys.

Linda K. discussed the need for diversity in our clubs – we need to reach out to other segments of our population to have more representation of other cultures and people.

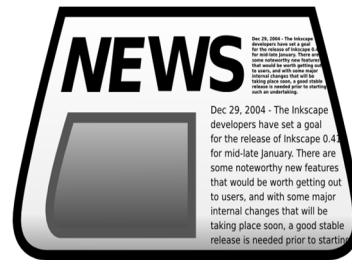
Bob A. talked about newer social media to attract members: Instagram is more commonly used by younger people, What's App is an international favorite, and Facebook is the grandparents' choice (posts with photos are preferred by users). Technology for Friendship Force use are apps such as 4 square city guide. We all should update our social media use!

Joe, Marilee, Monique, Fred, and June were the lucky winners of door prizes.



November Birthdays

| | |
|----|-----------|
| 8 | John U. |
| 12 | Ches T. |
| 28 | Brenda P. |



Another Change

Ray Bowyer has been webmaster of the club web site since 2002, and has been newsletter editor since 2020. Because of the inability of Ray and Margie to participate in club activities, he has reluctantly decided to resign from these two responsibilities.

Pierre Grimes has agreed to assume both these responsibilities. Please give Pierre support as he takes over.

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:

Pierre Grimes

Pierre.grimes@gmail.com
248-240-9914
10818 Big Canoe
Big Canoe, Georgia 30143

Deadline for the December issue is November 26, 2023.

ITINERARY

San Antonio, Nov., 2023

November 1 - Welcome Party - Canoe POA Lodge - 6:00-9:00

November 2 - 10:30 - meet at Booth Museum(501 Museum Dr), Cartersville - guided tour

12:30 - Lunch at Booth Museum

2:00 - Funk Museum(Heritage Dr), Reinhardt University, Waleska - guided tour

4:30 - Meet at Chateau Meichtry(1862 Orchard Ln, Talking Rock) for wine
tasting*

6:00 - Dinner at Bigun's BBQ (362 Carns Mill Rd. Talking Rock)

November 3 - 10:00 - Meet at Gibbs Gardens (1987 Gibbs Dr., Ballground)

Free afternoon/ Take your host out for dinner

November 4 - 10:00 - Meet at Southern Museum of Civil War & Locomotive History

(2829 Cherokee St, Kennesaw)

12:30 - Lunch at Varsity, Town Center (2790 Town Center Dr, Kennesaw)

2:00 - Kennesaw Mountain Battlefield/Museum**(900 Kennesaw Mt. Dr.)

6:00 - Small group dinners

November 5 - Free morning

2:00 - Meet at Marina, pontoon boat rides

4:00 - Farewell Dinner - Beach Club, Big Canoe

Catered Dinner - Southern Fare

Music by Bill Pound

*out-of-pocket expense

**free to those who have a National Park Pass; otherwise, \$5 fee

Activities to consider on free time:

Fishing museums in area (Savoy, Tellus)

New Echota Etowah Mounds Roswell historic homes

Atlanta Gold Mine in Dahlonega Amicalola Falls State Park

other wineries: Sharptop, Fainting Goat, Cartecay, Canoe, Grapes and Ladders, Wolf Mountain, Roo



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2024 Membership Application/Renewal

Name(s) _____

Current Members, please fill in any information below that has changed:

Address _____

Home Telephone# _____

Cell Phone (s)# _____

Email Address(es) _____

Month/Day of Birth _____

Membership Dues ☐ *\$40 per year Individual*

☐ *\$80 per year Couple*

Return To: Sherry Wileman, Treasurer, 341 Evie Lane, Canton, GA 30115

Make check payable to FFBCNG (Friendship Force Big Canoe North GA)