



friendship force

BIG CANOE -
NORTH GEORGIA

December
2023
Newsletter

a world of friends is a world of peace

<http://www.ffbcng.org>

Coming Events

December 10, 2023, at 3:00—5:00 PM	Annual Holiday Party at home of Dan Sherry's Home
January 21	Monthly Meeting @ the Beach Club in Big Canoe from 2:00-4:00 PM The speaker will be Monique Vinelli -Habitat for Humanity.
April 29—May 4	Tallahassee Inbound
June 12—19	Calgary Outbound
August 23—Sept 1	Festival of the Sea Cruise
September 2024 (tentative)	Outgoing journey to Utah
October 7—9	Milwaukee Conference

Want to Know more about Friendship Force International?

Check out the Friendship Force International website at

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



Out Bound Journeys

Next year will be a very active one with an inbound journey from Tallahassee and outbound planned to Calgary, Canada. We also have an Outbound Journey planned to visit Salt Lake City, Utah in September, 2024 but low interest from our club has prompted us to recommend that this journey be moved to 2025.

Upcoming Meetings

President's Letter -Barry

December 10th – 3:00-5:00 -Holiday Party at Sherry & Dan's house. Please bring an appetizer to share. Everything else will be provided.

January 21st – Our monthly meeting will be at the Beach Club in Big Canoe from 2:00-4:00. Our own Monique Vinelli will be speaking about Habitat For Humanity. It will be a Soup & Bread Lunch. Sign-ups will be at the Holiday Party. There will be a \$30 fee per person for members.

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.

December Birthdays

Tom Ficht - 8th

Barry Kakechuk - 15th

Monique Vinell - 16th

Dan Hunsberger - 24th



Cares and Concerns

Huw Williams is having surgery on his head to remove melanoma. The surgery will take place at the Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, Florida on December 19th. Please keep Hue in your prayers for a speedy recovery during this special time of year.

San Antonio Inbound Journey

Notes and Concerns

We just completed a great San Antonio Inbound Journey. Thanks to Joe and Marilee and the various committee members for their hard work preparing for, and the implementation of, this successful Inbound. We received outstanding reviews from the San Antonio Ambassadors. In addition, we have made friends with very kind and gentle people from San Antonio and surrounds. They loved the pontoon boat ride and winery. All enjoyed the museums. They liked having live music at the end. They were all very complimentary of their hosts and were very happy with the pictures and souvenir photo. There were very few complaints. The only negative was that someone said that the food at the farewell party was too cold.

Details:

Transportation:

It was agreed that using the MARTA from the Atlanta airport to North Springs was highly efficient and should be considered for future journeys. At least one substitute driver should be assigned in case of cancellation. As many of our Ambassadors are single, the need for additional drivers is becoming more and more necessary.

Welcome Party:

WE should consider having the Welcome Party the first day after their arrival. The ambassadors were tired from their travels.

All orders for food should have a signed contract including the list of food, individual and total prices, and delivery/pickup times. No food should be ordered from any provider with a rating of less than 90 from the Department of Public Health. All restaurants visited during the journey should also have a rating of 90 or above to ensure health/food safety for all. Any catered food should be delivered at appropriate temperatures and in a timely manner.

Brochures:

The brochures were well done.

Activities:

The activities were well received but it was suggested that they be consolidated to minimize driving. The winery was one of the highlights enjoyed by all.

Day Hosts:

We need to have standby drivers to transport ambassadors to daily activities when a home host is unable to drive. A big thank you to all who volunteered to stand in at the last minute!

Home Hosts: According to ambassador reviews, our home hosts were considered a highlight of the trip! It must be made clear to all those volunteering to be home hosts, that National Journeys are different from Open World and they will be responsible for transporting their guests. Be sure this is clearly understood by all those volunteering for this committee.

Farewell Party: The food arrived slightly cold, but all in all it was a fun evening. The presentation of photos of the trip was a special addition to the evening. Live music was a great plus! Having a photo to take home made an appreciated souvenir.

Ambassador Evaluations: We received excellent ratings from our guests. They listed the hosts, pontoon outing, winery, museums, Amicalola Falls, Native Tribe educational opportunities and transportation as exceptional.

San Antonio Inbound Journey Photos



San Antonio Inbound Journey Photos



