



friendship force

CENTRAL VIRGINIA

Changing the Way You See the World

The Ambassador

Officers/Directors

President *Monica Notaro*
 Vice President..... *Patty Sclater*
 Treasurer *David Lea*
 Secretary..... *Pam Hokanson*
 Directors..... *Dave Burns, Linda Burns, Al Colville, Deb Winslow, Walt O'Connell*

Committee Chairs

Event Chairman *Patty Sclater*
 Fund Raising *Dave & Sally Zabranski*
 JAG *Linda Burns*
 Membership *Peggy Colville*
 Outreach *Carol Donahue*
 Journeys..... *Deb Winslow*
 Communications *Walt O'Connell*

June, 2018
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President's Message

Monica Notaro



Wow, what a start! Members traveling the globe, ambassadors arriving to enjoy our wonderful, historical area, other members preparing to travel on FFI sponsored journeys. I hope you aren't missing out on all of the fun.

Our upcoming mystery dinner is always a fun event. Whether you are a host or a guest you will have a great time.

Our JAG program is gearing up for another full year as well. Our annual Labor Day picnic for the JAG students is always fun and is an important part of our mission to make these students feel welcome to the United States. Mark your calendar now... details will follow.

And be sure to participate in the Australian Inbound in October. Entertaining the Australians is always a fun event.

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Friendship Force is a great organization. You get the most benefit when you participate in the events. We look forward to seeing you soon.

In friendship,

Monie

Events Committee in Action

Patty Sclater, Chair

Spring proved busy for our club, with two domestic inbound journeys and one international outbound trip. Summer brings with it an equally full schedule. Next up is the ever-popular Mystery Dinner (not to be confused with murder mystery theater or games), coordinated by Peggy Colville.

The “mystery” of our dinners is that hosts do not know who their guests will be until they answer the doorbell. Guests don’t know where they will be dining until a day or two before the event, nor do they know who their fellow diners will be until the actual event. Confused? Not to fear.

Peggy will be coordinating this fun filled event. Soon you will receive an email Doodle survey, asking if you want to be a Host or Guest or are Unable to Participate. *Please be sure to respond. Not knowing how many are participating in events until the last minute is troublesome.* Peggy will contact hosts to determine if they are planning a theme around the meal (i.e. country, sport, etc.), how many guests they can accommodate, what entrée they will be serving and what dishes they need guests to bring. Armed with this information, Peggy matches guests with hosts. She then contacts members who have signed up to be guests and lets them know the evening’s theme and what they are to bring approximately a week prior to the event. Closer to the event, she makes a follow-up call to give guests the address where they will be dining.

Where will you go for dinner – Bavaria, the Eiffel Tower or perhaps the super bowl?

In August, we embark on a reciprocal visit to Des Moines. Deb Winslow is busy finalizing plans for the trip. And Linda Burns is already making plans for the annual Labor Day picnic for our international JAG School students.

These events are covered in detail later in the Ambassador. Additionally, the calendar of events for the remainder of 2018 is later in the newsletter.

Membership Chairman’s Report

Peggy Smith Colville, Chair

Our year is half over and we have not made much progress in building up our membership. So I would like to encourage all of our members to put in some special efforts for the rest of this year to

introduce our club to their friends and neighbors. As you plan for up-coming events, please give some thought to who you might ask to accompany you. Over the years, we have found this the very best way to find new folks who could be interested in our activities.

Also, I want to urge all members that when you receive a Doodle Poll, **Please Respond** and let the coordinator of that event know if you plan on attending, whether you will be bringing a guest or if you cannot attend. All this information is SO important – you have no idea what a headache it becomes not knowing how many of you we will have or not have at an event.

!

Fundraising

Sally and Dave Zabransky

We will be manning the beer cart at the Sprint Pavilion on July 5 during the Trey Anastasio concert. Thanks to Al and Peggy Colville, Dave and Linda Burns, Laura and Bob Keeton, Monica Notaro and Dave Wirth for volunteering to work at this event.

The Sprint Pavilion has assigned FFCV to work at the CURED Bacon Festival on July 21, 2018 from noon to 5 P.M. We need 12 volunteers to work this event. As of today, Judy Lesiak, Monica Notaro, Peggy Birdsall, Al and Peggy Colville and Dave and Sally Zabransky have volunteered to work this event. We still need five additional volunteers. Please check your calendars to see if you can help out that day.

We will also be collecting \$1 from any member not wearing their I.D. tag at meetings, selling Friendship Force pins and mugs, and continuing with our 50/50 raffles.

If you have any other ideas, please let us know. We are always looking for new and fun ways to raise funds.

JAG School

Linda Burns, Chair

We just completed graduation in May of all of our students. The first one was held on May 3 for our two Basic Course students. Then we had a graduation on May 31 for our Graduate Course students. Congratulations to all.

We will soon be receiving new students. Please consider being a sponsor. It is a very rewarding experience. Also, keep Labor Day open to join us for our annual Labor Day picnic we host for the JAG students. It's a great way to meet them and share time with them.

Outreach

Carol Donahue, Chair

You can contact Carol @ camd68@gmail.com or 434-589-7613.

Journey Committee

Deb Winslow

We are well on our way to a year full of Journeys. We have just completed our inbound journey with Des Moines and others are still on the schedule. These are great opportunities to participate in the signature Friendship Force events.

Outbound: Des Moines, Iowa, 15-20 August 2018 The folks in Des Moines recommended we visit them in August when the Iowa State Fair is underway (August 9-19) After enjoying the company of the folks from Des Moines, some may now be interested in joining our Outbound. Please send me an email if you are interested.

2018 Inbound: Bundaberg, Australia, 2-9 October 2018 As previously noted this journey is in conjunction with the Bundaberg's multi-week visit to the U.S. which will include our club, one in central North Carolina, a few days in Nashville, and finally the FF club in Baton Rouge, LA. At last word, the group should not include more than 16 ambassadors. Like the other inbounds expect to be contacted soon over what role you can play in this journey, i.e. host, day host, dinner party, etc. We have received our official inbounds and outbounds for 2019.

2019 Inbound: FF Flathead Valley, Kalispell, Montana in the spring of 2019.

2019 Outbound: I have not gotten all the specifics yet, but a fall trip to the Sunshine Coast and Bundaberg, Australia and Marlborough, New Zealand has been approved.

Harrisburg Inbound Journey

Dave Burns

Between April 18-22 FFCV hosted a group of ten ambassadors in a journey organized by the Friendship Force of Greater Harrisburg (FFGH) club. The group, however, came from various clubs to include five FFGH members (one actually lives in Indianapolis), two from Dallas, Texas, two from North Carolina, and one from Cheyenne, Wyoming. During their abbreviated journey the ambassadors had a guided tour of historic Charlottesville, toured Monticello and Montpelier, got to visit Morven Gardens for the only day it is open to the public for Garden Week, had lunch at Michie Tavern, and most importantly got to do some wine tasting and relaxing at several local wineries. Their stay was topped off by a farewell dinner organized by Patty Sclater and members of the Events Committee. Feedback from the ambassadors I spoke with all said they had a wonderful time and each and every one said they have a new appreciation for central Virginia and FFCV. Special thanks to full time hosts Al and Peggy Colville, Peggy Birdsall, Lynn and Dave Wirth, David Lea, Linda

Gehle, and my wife Linda. Also, thank you to Deb Winslow and Monica Notaro for day hosting and for Bob Harris and Charlotte Meadows who volunteered to day host but were not needed. And of course thanks to Patty and all who participated one way or another in the journey. Remember, this is considered a reciprocal journey and we are scheduled to visit FFGH next spring.



East Coast Super Regional Conference, Charleston, SC, Nov 7-9

Dave Burns

Suggest you really think about attending this as it should be very interesting. For those not familiar with how these things work, in past years there were annual conferences in each FF region, which largely was for club leaders, and those who were really into Friendship Force. Well things have changed as World Conferences, previously held every year around the world, will now be every two years and we now will have so-called "Super Regional Conferences" those years when there is no World Conference. Our region, the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast Region will be combining forces with both the Florida and Southeast Regions. Having this first Super Regional Conference in Charleston is a really good deal as in addition to workshops, speakers and the like we also will have plenty of time to sightsee and wander around the Charleston Historic District where the conference will be held. Conference organizers, of which I am one, just started planning the conference and we are only in the early stages of putting it together. Since I am a member of this club I will be keeping everybody up to date on what is going on. But again put some serious thought into participating.

Recent Japan Journeys

Al Colville

The month of May was an exciting one for 10 members of FFCV. We participated in two Journey events in Japan. The first was hosted by the Friendship Force of Ota (Gunma) and got us off to a wonderful start. One of the highlights of that visit was our trip to the World Heritage Site at Nikko but others included a tour of the local Subaru Factory, making and eating our own Soba noodles and last, but not least, a visit with the Mayor of Ota City. All of this was mixed in with free day options that were planned and carried out by our very imaginative and friendly hosts.

Our second Journey was hosted by the Friendship Force of Mie, a prefecture somewhat South and West of Tokyo. And it was no less wonderful than our first Journey. The highlight would have to be the bus tour we took to Kyoto one day where we saw the Kinkakuji (Golden) Temple, the Sanju Sangendo Temple and the Nijojo Castle. Other interesting visits included the Mie Museum, the Senjuji Temple and the Imuraya Candy Factory Tour. We also paid our respects to the Mayor of Tsu City, who spoke English quite fluently and spent almost an hour chatting with us. By the way, for both Mayoral Visits, we were able to present them with Proclamations signed by Charlottesville's Mayor, Nikuyah Walker, thanks to the efforts of Vern Buchanan and Charlotte Meadows.

After these two wonderful but busy weeks, several of us went to Tokyo on our own for several days to wind down before our long flights home. To sum it all up, we had a great time, saw many amazing sights and made friends with a lot of kind and generous people. It was truly a "Journey to Remember".



News from FFI

Below is the latest on Journeys from FFI. Learn about each by Ctrl + Click to follow the link. Also you can click [here](#) to see the U.S. eFlyer is a place to find information about domestic Journeys within the United States, undersubscribed U.S. outbound Journeys, and occasional regional conferences and special events. The Journeys listed in the U.S. eFlyer are open to all ambassadors, representing some of the many places where you can experience new cultures and expand your global circle of friends.

FEATURED JOURNEY



Edmonton and Area and Lethbridge, Canada

August 12 to August 26, 2018

[Discover More](#)

NEW JOURNEYS



Explore Myanmar

October 9 to October 20, 2018

[Click for Details >](#)



Discover Costa Rica

October 10 to October 20, 2018

[Click for Details >](#)



Lima, Peru

November 1 to November 7, 2018

[Click for Details >](#)



Nashik Riverside, India

November 1 to November 22, 2018

[Click for Details >](#)



Discover China

November 1 to November 16, 2018

[Click for Details >](#)



2019 Festival at Sea Cruise

February 21 to March 8, 2019

[Click for Details >](#)



Bogotá, Colombia and Quito and the Galápagos Islands, Ecuador

April 26 to May 11, 2019

[Click for Details >](#)

WANT TO EXPLORE MORE JOURNEYS?
Click below to view our full catalog of available experiences.

[SEE ALL JOURNEYS >](#)



friendship force

INTERNATIONAL

Experience different views. Discover common ground.

SAVE THE DATE

2019 FFI World Conference
New Location and New Dates

BOULDER, COLORADO, USA JULY 23-27, 2019

Workshops/Plenaries: July 23-25 | Social/Local Activities: July 26-27

Due to Hurricane Maria's lasting impact on Puerto Rico, our 2019 World Conference location and dates have been changed. Please save the *new* date and location, and plan to join us in Boulder, Colorado next July!



"Welcome to Boulder, Colorado" - Watch the Video!

More details coming soon!

Concerned about traveling in these uncertain times?

You might want to check out this article

. <http://www.wendyperrin.com/7-keys-traveling-without-fear-despite-terrorist-attacks/>

Help Wanted

We are getting organized for 2018 and one of our goals is to encourage our members to play an active role in the affairs of the club. While some positions require a bit more time and effort (such as Exchange Director) there are many that only require a couple of hours a month (e.g. contributing to the newsletter, helping maintain our Web page, helping to plan an event, or working on one of the committees). You will find that if you participate actively you will have a lot more fun and add your ideas to making our club even better.

If you are interested in making a difference and getting a better return on your investment, contact one of the directors or committee chairs. They are listed on the front page of the newsletter.

We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Do you need a name tag or business cards?

Business Cards and Name Tags are available from Walt. New members receive a supply of cards and a paper tag. Metal tags can be ordered and the cost is \$10 +/- depending on shipping. Additional cards are available for \$1 for 20. If you are interested let Walt know.


walt.oconnell@gmail.com

434.591.0532

Member News


The minutes of the BOD meetings and copies of the Ambassador Newsletter are available on our Web site, www.fcc.avenue.org

The BOD meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend. We welcome your participation



Happy Birthday!

Albert Colville	6/16
Ernest Busboso	7/6
LeRoy Moyer	7/7
Margaret Dryer	7/8
Dave Zabransky	7/17
Dolores Schwagerl	7/29
Wayne Brady	7/31



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Monica and Sal Notaro	5/4
Dave and Linda Burns	5/9
Mark and Margaret Dryer	5/16
Pam and Paul Hokanson	6/12
Bob and Dee Schwagerl	6/16
Peggy and Orion Birdsall	6/26
Dave and Sally Zabransky	7/1
Robert and Joanne Harris	7/11
Ernest and Jean Busboso	7/16
Lynn and David Wirth	7/31

*Did we miss your special day?
 Let Peggy know so we can update our records
peggysmith1@hotmail.com*

2018 Calendar Meetings and Events

Month	Board Meeting		Events		Participants
	Date	Time	Date	Event Details	
-					-
July	7/10/2018	3:00 - 5:00 PM	July 14	Mystery Dinner	FFCV Members
Aug	8/14/2018	3:00 - 5:00 PM	August, Date TBD	Des Moines Outbound	FFCV Members
Sept	9/11/2018	3:00 - 5:00 PM	September 3 - Labor Day	JAG Picnic	FFCV Members, JAG Students, Guests Prospective Members
Oct	10/9/2018	3:00 - 5:00 PM	October 2 - 9	Australia Inbound	FFCV Members, Australia Visitors
Nov	11/13/2018	2:00 - 4:00 PM	November 7-9	East Coast Regional Conference – Charleston, SC	FFCV Members
Dec	12/11/2018	2:00 - 4:00 PM	December, Date TBD	Holiday Party - Keeton Home, Scottsville, VA	FFCV Members, JAG Students, Guests/Prospective Members

Show Your Club Logo with Custom Merchandise



Embroidery

You now have the ability to purchase quality merchandise with our club logo *embroidered* on it from Queensboro. Some of us have purchased this merchandise in the past and have found it to be very good quality.

We have our own “store front” that uses our approved logo and ordering products through it is quite easy. Go to <http://ffcvgbstores.com> and to see the selection of products. To make a purchase, set up an account and then select from the products available, specifying your size and color preference.

A flat fee of \$6.50 per order applies regardless of the order size so team up with a friend and consolidate your orders.

Queensboro offers many more products than we have placed in our store front. If you are looking for something in particular you can view their entire site at <http://www.queensboro.com>. You can order directly from that site but you won't have access to our logo. If you see an item you would like with the logo, let Walt know (walt.oconnell@gmail.com, 434-591-0532) and he will add it to the store front.



Embroidery

BOD Minutes

**Friendship Force Central Virginia Inc.
Regular Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 3:00-5:00 PM
Clubhouse at Villages at Nahor, Palmyra, VA**

Board Members and Committee Chairs Present:

President Monica Notaro, Vice President Patty Sclater, Secretary Pam Hokanson, Treasurer David Lea, Deb Winslow, Al Colville, Walt O'Connell

Board Members Absent:

Linda Burns, Dave Burns

Committee Chairs and Guests:

Membership Chair Peggy Colville, Fund Raising Chair Dave and Sally Zabransky

Call to Order: President Notaro called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.

President's Comments: Monica had no additional comments.

Treasurer's Report: David reported a balance of \$6,644.46.

Secretary's Report: The minutes were approved as written.

Old Business:

2018 Budget: David Lea and Deb Winslow are still working on it.

Birthday Bash: The event will take place March 31 from 2:00 – 4:00 at the Northside Library in Charlottesville. Members are encouraged to invite prospective members.

Walt will print brochures and have applications. Al will bring the map marked with places we have been. JAG students will be invited, but will not do any presentations. Monica will welcome and talk about exchanges. Talks will be limited to 3 or 4 minutes with most of the time used for socialization. A Doodle Poll will be sent out March 14 with a deadline of March 26.

New Business:

The board discussed the best way to distribute information requested by FFCV members. Susan Roberts requested that information about an educational event the Blue Ridge United Nations Association is sponsoring on March 25. It was decided that Walt could make members aware of the special program by putting the information in the newsletter and on FaceBook with Susan Roberts as the contact person.

Committee Reports:

Membership: Peggy reported that as of the meeting we had 50 paid members.

Fund Raising: Dave Zabransky reported that we have the opportunity for volunteering at the Sprint Pavilion on July 21 from noon to 5:00. He needs 10 volunteers. Right now this is the only event given to us; there might be 1 or 2 more. Additional sources of fund raising will be to continue the 50-50 at our events, asking for loose change, and charging members \$1.00 if they forget to wear their name tag at an event.

Journeys:

Incoming: Harrisburg is coming April 19-23. Dave Burns is coordinating activities for the 4 days. Des Moines is coming June 13-18. Deb is coordinating this exchange.

Australia will be coming in October. Deb just started working on this exchange.

Outbound: Japan - Al is working with several people to get a proclamation from the mayor of Charlottesville to give to the mayors of Ota and Mie. The plane reservations are set. Al will send out a bus schedule from Narita to Ota. Deb will send out an email to those going to find out how many club pins are needed. Cost of the pins is \$3.50.

Des Moines – We only have a small group is signed up to go. Deb is still waiting to get final dates for this.

JAG: No report.

Outreach: No report.

Events: Plans for the Birthday Bash – see Old Business. Patty sent update of the events calendar to Walt for the newsletter.

Communications: Walt wants items for the newsletter by this weekend and hopes to send it out next Monday.

Next Board Meeting: the next board meeting will be Tuesday, April 10th, from 3:00-5:00 PM at the Clubhouse at the Villages at Nahor.
The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Hokanson, Secretary



**CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD**

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

County*: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone (land line): _____

**Note: in city = C'ville; else Albemarle, Fluvanna, etc.*

Cell: _____ Preferred Badge Name: _____ New Member Sponsor _____

For Family Application: Partner's Name: _____ Email: _____

Partner's Cell: _____ Preferred Badge Name: _____

We like to recognize our members on their special days if you choose (month and day only, we overlook the year).

Your Birthday: ____ / ____ . Partner's birthday: ____ / ____ . Anniversary: ____ / ____ .

It is important that you have a good understanding of The Friendship Force, what we do, and what to expect. The Web site for Friendship Force International is a good source of information about the history and mission of our organization. Please review the information at www.friendshipforce.org, paying particular attention to the tabs "Who We Are/History and /Mission" and "FAQs" and our club at www.ffc.avenue.org. If you don't have access to the Web, please contact a member for information about our FFI and our club.

To make our club successful, all members contribute as they are able to our various activities. Please check the activities in which you would like to participate or learn more about in 2018. (Partners do separately when your interests diverge). **Do you want to:**

Exchange Activities

<input type="checkbox"/>	Go on an Outbound Journey
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outbound Journey Planning Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inbound Journey Planning Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inbound Journey Home Host
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inbound Journey Day Host
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inbound Journey Small Dinner Party Host

Other Club Work and Activities

<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Communications/Publicity
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Fund Raising including Fridays After Five
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Member Meeting Organizing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Event Planning and Organizing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Membership Committee

Community Activities and Service

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sponsor a JAG student
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work on a Community Project (e.g., International Refugee Committee, World Friendship Day, or outreach to community)

What areas of the world are of particular interest for an Exchange?

Asia__Canada__Europe__Eurasia__Latin America__Middle East__Africa__South Pacific__USA__

Annual Dues: \$30 per member.. Please include a check made out to **FFC with your application**. Please submit application/renewal and dues to membership chair, Peggy Colville, 315 Village Blvd. Palmyra, VA 22963.

