



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, Peggy Colville

Committee Chairs

Communications..... *Sally Zabransky*
Events
Fund Raising..... *Dave Zabransky*
JAG..... *Linda Burns*
Journeys *Deb Winslow*
Membership *Peggy Colville*
Outreach *Carol Donahue*
Webmasters..... *Al Colville and Dave*
Zabransky

JULY-AUGUST 2019

President's Message

Monica Notaro

The cycle of life with its sadness and joys was apparent this month. New grandchildren were born and brought tremendous joy to their families! One of our JAG students had a baby girl (see story and pictures later in this newsletter)! As for the opposite part of the cycle, we just learned a few days ago that member, Peggy Birdsall's husband, Orion, passed away. Among our club members we have a few who are recovering from major surgery, had to have radiation or chemotherapy, or are faced with other health challenges. These are all reminders of how we have to live each day to the fullest.

A joy coming up for me is the opportunity to have a journey to Australia and New Zealand from November 1-22, 2019. This has been on my "bucket list" for a long time. Clubs from Australia have visited us a few times over the years, and we had such fun sharing our lives in beautiful Central VA with them! We have been invited by the Bundaberg and Sunshine Coast in Australia and Marlborough, New Zealand to come and spend time experiencing where they live. Please consider joining in this adventure! We will be sending out more information about these areas and a Doodle Poll to capture your interest in making this journey. Our Friendship Force fee will be approximately \$150 per week. Airfare is on your own, taking your

Contents

| | |
|---|---|
| President's Message..... | 1 |
| Events Committee in Action..... | 2 |
| Baby Shower for Major Jennie's Newborn Baby Girl, Aviv | 2 |
| June 15 th BBQ Cookout..... | 2 |
| Membership Meeting..... | 3 |
| Fund Raising | 4 |
| Journey Committee | 4 |
| JAG School | 6 |
| Member News..... | 8 |

host out to dinner one night and bringing a gift is customary, and any other shopping or things you choose to do outside of the itinerary provided by our hosts. We hope this is a deal too good to refuse.

Our upcoming membership meeting on July 17th, which you'll read about later in this issue, is a perfect opportunity to invite friends of all ages to experience what Friendship Force is all about. You will meet guests from Japan who hosted some of our members last May and will be entertaining us. Building friendships like this encourages peace and good will between our countries. Let's give them a warm welcome!

Events Committee in Action

Committee Members: Peggy Colville, Linda Burns, Mary Ann Doucette, Patty Sclater, Joyce Spitler and Dale Walden

Baby Shower for Major Jennie's Newborn Baby Girl, Aviv

By Peggy Colville

David Winer planned a wonderful baby shower and going away luncheon at Burton's Grill for Major Jennie and her husband, Yevgeny and of course their newborn baby girl, Aviv. Larry Moore was there to also wish them a safe journey back to Israel. It was heart-lifting to watch Yevgeny helping Jennie out by walking and holding Aviv the entire time she was trying to eat and enjoy the people around the table.

We wished them a safe journey back home and hope they will be able to return to America in the future. It would be wonderful to see Aviv, as I am sure she will become a beautiful young lady.

Thanks, David, for making this event happen.



June 15th BBQ Cookout

By Peggy Colville

First of all, one big thank you to Peggy and Orion Birdsall for opening up their home for our June BBQ get-together. (This event was a replacement for our Mystery Dinner, which did not get enough signups from our members.) What a wonderful evening we had. Good food from everyone along with a little laughter, great story-telling and just all around, an evening of getting to know our fellow

friendship members. And, of course, we had to celebrate Al's birthday, that was coming up the very next day. Sorry you missed it.

Pictures provided by Peggy Birdsall.



Membership Meeting

By Peggy Colville

Our next Membership Meeting will take place at the Elks Club starting at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, July 17th. The main event will feature a performance by Kanta-san from Japan. He home-hosted Dave and Linda Burns of our club when we took our Journey to Japan a year ago in May. Kanta-san will be visiting Dave and Linda and has offered to treat us to a similar performance to the one he did for us last year. A second order of business will be discussing what types of activities and speakers you would like to have for the rest of the year.

A buffet will be provided to all attendees at a cost per person of \$12.00. This meeting will take place in the pool side meeting room at the Elks Lodge at 389 Elks Drive in Pantops.

IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE ANSWER YOUR DOODLE POLL THAT WAS SENT OUT ON THIS EVENT. WE DO NEED TO GIVE THE ELK'S CLUB AN ACCURATE COUNT FOR THE EVENING. IF YOU DID NOT SEE THIS POLL IN YOUR E-MAIL, PLEASE CALL

PEGGY COLVILLE (434- 589-2844) AND LET HER KNOW WHETHER YOU ARE COMING OR NOT – THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT.



Fund Raising

Dave Zabransky, Chair

A big thanks to our volunteers Laura Keeton, Monica Notaro, Deb Winslow, and Sally Zabransky who braved the rainy weather at our second fundraiser of the year, Fridays After Five, on June 28th. Our next event is the Flaming Lips concert on August 6th. Al and Peggy Colville, Dave and Linda Burns, Sally and Dave Zabransky and Patty Sclater and Steve Cooley have volunteered to work the beer cart at this event. Thanks to all for volunteering.



Journey Committee

Dave Burns & Pam Hokanson, Ambassador Coordinators

As previously noted, FFCV's 2019 Outbound Journey is a three-week visit to clubs located in Sunshine Coast and Bundaberg, Australia and Marlborough District, New Zealand. The dates for the journey have not been confirmed but are scheduled to start in mid-October and completed before Thanksgiving. Unfortunately, many of our members who had planned on participating in the journey are no longer able to do so, primarily due to health issues. If you have interest in this journey, please

let us know ASAP as our host coordinators need to know if we will be coming or if the journey will have to be cancelled. We really do not want to cancel the journey as we worked hard with the three clubs to get FFI to approve it, the Sunshine Coast and Bundaberg clubs have visited us in recent years, and all three places offer visits to highly popular locations. A little information is included below on each location; again, if you have an interest in participating please let us know.

The Sunshine Coast is located about 60 miles north of the state capital, [Brisbane](#), in [South East Queensland](#) on the [Pacific Ocean](#) coastline, its urban area spans approximately 40 miles of coastline and hinterland. The estimated urban population of Sunshine Coast as of 2015 was slightly more than 302,000 making it the 9th most populous in Australia. The city encompasses beach resorts, surf spots and rural hinterland in southern Queensland, and stretches from the coastal city of Caloundra, near Brisbane, north to the Cooloola section of the Sandy National Park, home to multicolored sand dunes, mangrove forests, and shallow lakes. Upscale Noosa Heads has boutique shops, waterways, and walking trails through Noosa National Park.



Bundaberg is in south-east [Queensland](#), Australia, about 240 miles north of the state capital, [Brisbane](#). It is about 10 miles inland from the coast and situated on the [Burnett River](#). Bundaberg is the business center for a major sugar cane growing area, and is well known for its namesake export, [Bundaberg Rum](#). The city is an important tourism gateway for inland national parks and the southern end of the [Great Barrier Reef](#) and resort islands. Nearby on the coast is Mon Repos Regional Park, home to sea turtles, and offshore is Lady Elliot Island, part of the Great Barrier Reef. At Australia's 2016 Census population of the Bundaberg Significant Urban Area was about 69,000.



Marlborough is a region of New Zealand, at the northeastern tip of the South Island. It's well known for its winemaking industry, and the Marlborough Sounds, an extensive network of coastal waterways, peninsulas and islands. Blenheim, the main town in Marlborough, is situated in a large valley and with a population of just over 30,000 people. Picton is smaller but, being at the head of the Marlborough Sounds is an important port hosting a number of cruise ships annually. Marlborough is a rapidly expanding wine region, our Sauvignon Blanc becoming world renowned and giving rise to a large number of wineries and their vineyards. An even bigger industry is that of mussels, prolific in the sheltered bays of the Marlborough Sounds. To a lesser extent, there is cattle and sheep farming, some orchards and forestry. The climate is moderate.



JAG School

Linda Burns, Chair

We are looking forward to welcoming our new incoming JAG students in August and September. Arriving on 2 August 2019 will be the students for the Graduate Course (9 month). They are coming from: Israel, Egypt, Korea, Philippines, Tunisia and Nigeria. Students arriving on 16 September 2019 for the Basic Course (3 months) are from: Netherlands, Liberia, Mongolia and Zambia. As of now, I have not received names, sex or if they are bringing family, but when I receive that info, I will pass it on. Please consider being a sponsor. I already have some interested members, so you don't want to miss out. You will thoroughly enjoy the time you will spend with these students.

Also, please consider hosting the Labor Day picnic we hold for the students on Labor Day. We do this every year and try to hold it at a place on the lake or a home with a swimming pool, so the students have something to do, besides just eat. We always have members bring the food and generally we buy the main dish. If you would consider hosting, please let me know.

Outreach

Carol Donahue, Chair

As part of our Club's comradeship, the committee sends out appropriate recognition to any member experiencing an illness, or sad/joyous event. If you have knowledge of a member in need, please contact Carol at camd68@gmail.com or 434-589-7613.



TRIVIA QUESTIONS

1. What was JAG student Major Jennie's baby named?
2. Name the two Friendship Force clubs in Australia and one in New Zealand that have invited our club to visit them this Fall.
3. Where was the July BBQ held?
4. Which of our FFCV club members were hosted by Kanta-San and his wife in Japan last May?

Find the answers to the above questions and be the first to email Monica at: salandmonie@yahoo.com for a prize.

Member News

Copies of the Ambassador Newsletter are available on our Web site, www.friendshipforcecv.org

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



| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Dave Zabransky | 7/17 |
| Dolores Schwagerl | 7/29 |
| Stephen Cooley | 8/13 |
| Linda Gehle | 8/27 |



© wondercliparts.com

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Robert and Joanne Harris | 7/11 |
| Lynn and David Wirth | 7/31 |
| LeRoy and Helen Moyer | 8/3 |

Did we miss your special day?

*Let Peggy Colville know so we can update our records
434-589-2844 peggysmith1@hotmail.com*

**Friendship Force of Central Virginia
2019 Membership/Renewal**



**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 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 2019. (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 Comm. |
| <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 Host |

Other Club Work and Activities

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Serve on Communications/Publicity Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Serve on Fund Raising Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Serve on Event Planning Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Serve on Membership Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Community Activities and Service

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sponsor a JAG student |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Work on a Community Outreach Project |

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

Show Your Club Logo with Custom Merchandise



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.

