



friendship force

CENTRAL VIRGINIA

Changing the Way You See the World

Officers/Directors

President *Patty Sclater*
Vice President *Pam Hokanson*
Treasurer *David Lea*

Secretary *Joanne Harris*

Directors *Peggy Birdsall, Dave Burns, Al Colville, Peggy Colville, Deb Winslow*

Committee Chairs

Communications *Sally Zabransky*
Events *Laura Keeton*
Fund Raising *Dave Zabransky*
JAG *Linda Burns/Bing Spitler*

Journeys *Deb Winslow/ Susan Roberts*

Membership *Monica Notaro*
Outreach *Carol Donahue*
Webmasters *Al Colville and Dave*

President's Message

Patty Sclater

ZOOM'ing Right Along ...

COVID-19 has definitely impacted our lives. However, we haven't let it stop us from "visiting" with family and friends as well as attending meetings. Your board has been conducting on-line meetings for several months now.

On May 8th, Carol Donahue and I "joined" the Leicestershire, UK club for a virtual tea party to celebrate its 21st anniversary. Look for a picture of Carol in her pretty red hat on the FFI website. Members from five continents participated in the tea party. A number knew each other, having hosted or stayed with Leicestershire members on past journeys. By the way, I learned that the extended pinkie is oh so passé.

FFCV had a general membership meeting via Zoom on May 31st, with Jeremi Snook, FFI CEO and President, as special guest. He began his presentation with a heartfelt

JULY/AUGUST 2020

Contents

President's Message	1
Thanks to FFCV.....	3
Journey Committee.....	3
Events Committee in Action	4
JAG School.....	6
Fund Raising.....	6
Outreach.....	6
FFCV CALENDAR FOR 2020	7
Member News	8
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	9
Club Merchandise.....	10

thank you for our club's donation to FFI, describing it as "truly amazing." We gave a total of \$3,665, including an initial \$1,000 from the club's treasury, followed by an additional \$1,000 matching challenge which was more than met by our members (see Peggy Colville's article elsewhere in this newsletter).

Jeremi indicated that now that we are past the financial crisis, it is "not the time to sit back and just let things happen." This attitude is reflected in 350+ journeys on the FFI website which are already in the planning stages for 2021. (Ignore the start dates – they are just suggestions. The incoming and outgoing journey directors determine mutually convenient club dates.) These journeys build bridges through cultural exchanges, fostering peace through understanding.

He shared some of the suggestions that have been made to further tailor future journeys to members' interests:

- Increase domestic journeys (i.e. our reciprocal visit to Flathead Valley, Montana)
- Increase "travel bubbles" for exchanges with other countries but in the same general area (i.e. Pacific Rim, Eastern Europe, etc.)
- Encourage host and Ambassador coordinators to dialogue before the journeys and Ambassadors to do on-line exchanges to meet members of clubs we're visiting (i.e. pre-journey happy hour)
- Encourage shorter duration trips (i.e. single rather than back-to-back exchanges)
- Encourage post-trip "stopovers" (i.e. spend several days in a nearby location, such as Vienna or Prague after Krems, Austria visit)
- Create virtual clubs around shared interests (i.e. deep-sea divers, birders, etc.)

Jeremi stressed the importance of communication and staying in touch, particularly during these challenging times. He encouraged members to sign up on the website for FFI's new newsletter. Additionally, Jeremi has a blog to keep members abreast of what is going on (blog.friendshipforce.org).

Following his remarks, he entertained questions. After an hour, Jeremi left us to cut his grass. Given that he lives in Tallahassee, I think staying in our meeting would be more fun!

Next, Deb Winslow filled us in on the journeys for which we've been matched for 2021. (See her article elsewhere in this newsletter for details).

**Thanks to FFCV,
our Wonderful Organization!!!**

Peggy Colville

In the spirit of giving, our club has raised \$1,665 for the continued survival of Friendship Force International. Thanks go to our 14 members who contributed to keeping our doors open to international travels, greeting and welcoming people from around the world. If you were able to catch our Zoom meeting last week with FFI CEO and President, Jeremi Snook, you got the picture of how they are doing everything they can to assure our organization continues to be as active and strong as ever. One thing he suggested, which I thought was good, was to reach out and touch some of the people you have hosted and those who have opened-up their doors for us. We might not be able to visit in person for some time, but we can certainly feel close to them through all the technical options available to us these days.

Thanks again. May we all stay safe and healthy in this time of social distancing.

Journey Committee

Deb Winslow, Co-chair

Travel plans for 2020 have all been postponed or cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Hopefully we will be exploring the world again soon in person instead of virtually. Here are our scheduled plans for 2021:

Outbounds 2021:

International: Originally, we were matched for Krems, Austria and Szekesfehervar, Hungary in September. Unfortunately, the club in Hungary had to cancel. Our hope is to schedule short excursions surrounding our club visit to Austria.

Domestic: A reciprocal visit to Flathead, Montana is being planned for mid-June. An extended stay in Big Sky Country can be expected.

Inbounds 2021:

Global: Our club submitted a journey to FFI to showcase our local wineries and breweries. We are planning their visit in mid-October when weather is still pleasant and the leaves may be beginning to turn. When dates are finalized, we will need to create planning groups for all the fun ahead. Stay tuned.

Events Committee in Action

Laura Keeton, Chair

On Sunday, May 17th, 18 members braved going to the Schuyler Quarries during this COVID 19 virus. It was a delightful day.

We were greeted by owners, Armand and Bernice Thieblot and their dog Skylah. We then ate at their pavilion where we each sat carefully 6 feet apart while eating our picnic lunches. We were then taken to into their museum to view slides of the flora and fauna of the gardens and hear the history of the quarry industry and gardens. We saw several topographical maps of the hikes around the quarry and the veins of the soapstone which runs through the area. They had a darling train model of the community during the active soapstone quarrying business.

After this we divided into two groups to tour the gardens. Some went by car while others received headsets and followed Bernice around the 3/4-mile hike through their nature preserve. Bernice explained the habitat, each wildflower, and eventually the quarry pools. We saw and heard the beautiful bluebird and got to smell the centipede that smelled like cherry almond

This garden is certainly a treat for our area. It is well maintained and offers a delightful natural area to walk, smell the clean air, walk by a stream and observe nature at its best. We are fortunate to have it nearby.



July Event July 11th

Be alert. Due to the virus, most activities have been cancelled but we are planning a fun event for any one interested. On Saturday, July 11 we will tube down the river followed by a picnic at the Keeton's house. We will start the tubing at the Keeton's where we will transport back to the boat ramp in Scottsville. Take the slow boat to the Keeton's and disembark. Join others for a picnic while social distancing. The committee is meeting to discuss details but most likely the tubing will start at 12:00 and the picnic will commence at 4:00. Beverages and meat are provided by the club and members are expected to bring sides such as desserts, salads, etc.

You will need to provide your own tube or raft. We enjoy the tube but we also enjoy laying on an air mattress raft. Stay tuned!

JAG School

Linda Burns, Co-Chair

The JAG school is still planning on having classes in the summer and fall but there is some difficulty due to flights. A pre-recorded graduation ceremony for the 68th graduate course was held on May 28th. There are no international students in the upcoming 211th basic course that starts in a week or so. The 69th graduate course students (10 months) are scheduled to arrive on July 31st, not sure what that will look like yet, and the 212th basic course students will arrive mid-September, six in the grad course and four in the basic course.

We'll keep an eye on developments for international students in the coming weeks.

Fund Raising

Dave Zabransky, Chair

Due to COVID 19, the Sprint Pavilion has had to cancel Fridays After Five and other events for the foreseeable future.

We will notify you of events and seek volunteers once events are scheduled.

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.

FFCV CALENDAR FOR 2020

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT	SPEAKER (if applicable)	LOCATION	COORDINATOR
JANUARY	19	3:00 PM	SOUP/SALAD KICKOFF	BOARD	NAHOR VILLAGE CLUBHOUSE	LAURA KEETON
FEBRUARY	23	3:00 PM	RUSSIAN FFI TRIP PRESENTATION	PATTY SCLATER	NAHOR VILLAGE CLUBHOUSE	PATTY SCLATER
MARCH	14 - April 5		OUTBOUND TO BRAZIL Postponed due to COVID-19			DEB WINSLOW
APRIL	19	1:00 PM	BOX LUNCH AT QUARRY PAVILLION; THEN QUARRY GARDEN TOUR	BERNICE THIEBLOT	SCOTTSVILLE, SCHUYLER	LAURA KEETON
MAY	28 - June 1		OUTBOUND TO HARRISBURG, PA (reciprocal journey) Postponed due to COVID-19			AL AND PEGGY COLVILLE
	31		FFCV Membership Meeting (Zoom)	Jeremi Snook	VIRTUAL	PATTY SCLATER
TBD	TBD		D-DAY MEMORIAL, BEDFORD Postponed due to COVID-19		BEDFORD	LAURA KEETON
JULY	11	3:00 PM	CLUB PICNIC		KEETON HOME	LAURA KEETON
AUGUST	TBD	TBD	THEATER TRIP			PEGGY COLVILLE
SEPTEMBER	TBD		CLUB ACTIVITY WITH INTERNATIONAL JAG STUDENTS	JAG STUDENT(S)	TBD	LINDA BURNS
OCTOBER	TBD		INBOUND FROM PENTICTON-OKANAGAN, CANADA Postponed due to COVID-19			
NOVEMBER	TBD	TBD	SPEAKER FROM POLAND	SLAWEK WITKOWSKI	NAHOR VILLAGE CLUBHOUSE	LAURA KEETON
DECEMBER	20	3:00 PM	CHRISTMAS PARTY		KEETON HOME	LAURA KEETON

FFCV – FRIENDSHIP FORCE CENTRAL VIRGINIA
JAG – JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL

FFI – FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL
TBD – TO BE DETERMINED

Member News



Dave Zabransky	7/17
Dee Schwagerl	7/29
Jean Chapman	8/9
Stephen Cooley	8/13
Linda Gehle	8/27
Lucy Burnette	8/29

Copies of the Ambassador Newsletter are available on our website:
www.friendshipforcecv.org

The BOD meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at Nahor Village Clubhouse (2-2:30 PM EST; 3-4:30 PM DST) and are open to anyone who would like to attend. We welcome your participation.



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

Did we miss your special day?



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____ Phone(landline): _____

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: ___/___

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 2020. (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 Marketing Committee
<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)

Annual Dues: \$35 per member. Please include a check made out to **FFCV with your application**. Please submit application/renewal and dues to membership chair, Monica Notaro, 22 Fairwood Place, Palmyra, VA 22963

Club 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://ffcv.qbstores.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