



# friendship force

## CENTRAL VIRGINIA

Changing the Way You See the World

### Officers/Directors

*President* ..... *Patty Sclater*  
*Vice President* ..... *Deb Winslow*  
*Treasurer* ..... *David Lea*  
*Secretary* ..... *Pam Hokanson*  
*Directors* ..... *Dave Burns, Peggy Colville,*  
*Linda Burns, Josh Hung*

### Committee Chairs

*Communications* ..... *Al Colville*  
*Events* ..... *Laura Keeton*  
*Fund Raising* ..... *Linda Gehle*  
*JAG* ..... *Bing Spitler*  
*Journeys* ..... *Deb Winslow*  
*Membership* ..... *Peggy Colville*  
*Outreach* ..... *Carol Donahue*

## President's Message

*Patty Sclater*

Happy New Year! 2020 will go down in history books, on multiple levels. Our club persevered, however, and now it's time to look forward to what 2021 will bring. As you know, plans have been underway for a number of activities – local and domestic as well as international. Outgoing travel and incoming hosting activities are all scheduled for the second half of the year, after which we should all have been inoculated against COVID-19.

Let me introduce the club's board members for the coming year:

- Deb Winslow, Vice President and Journey Chair
  - David Lea, Treasurer
  - Pam Hokanson, Secretary
  - Peggy Colville, Membership Chair
  - Laura Keeton, Events Chair
  - Al Colville, Communications (newsletter and website) Chair
  - Bing Spitler, JAG School Chair
  - Linda Gehle, Fundraising Chair
  - Carol Donohue, Outreach Chair
  - Dave Burns, FFI Regional Representative
  - Josh Hung, At-Large Director
  - Linda Burns, At-Large Director
- I'll continue in my current capacity as President for 2021.

### JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2021

#### Contents

President's Message.....	1
Events Committee in Action.....	2
JAG School.....	3
Journeys.....	5
Membership.....	5
Outreach.....	5
Member News.....	6
Membership Application.....	7

A BIG THANK YOU to our outgoing board members – we appreciate your service!

Joanne Harris, Secretary  
Sally Zabransky, Communications Chair  
Dave Zabransky, Fundraising Chair  
Monica Notaro, Membership Chair  
Peggy Birdsall, At-Large Director (will help with marketing initiatives in 2021)

Board meetings will be via Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month at 3:00 pm. for the foreseeable future. Meetings are open to all members. If you wish to “attend,” let me know, and I’ll send you a link for the meeting.

I’m pleased to share that our dues will remain unchanged for 2021, staying at \$35 per person. Additionally, FFI is in the process of developing an on-line portal, which will provide new benefits for members. Stay tuned for further information on this portal as well as information on *A Stronger Way Forward*, FFI’s vision for a post-pandemic Friendship Force.

In the meantime, there are a number of virtual experiences that you can access on the FFI website. Some of the videos you can view at your convenience include **training** on *Zoom*, *WhatsApp* and *Duolingo*, *Photography: What Makes a Picture Worth a Second Look*, and *Improve Your Travel Photography*. **Virtual tours** include *Siberia*, *Romania*, *Brazil*, *New Zealand*, *Japan*, *France*, *Mexico* and *India*. Rounding out the offerings with **general courses** are *Solo Travel: Tips and Tricks*, *History of the Kaleidoscope*, and *Fulfilling Our Mission while Minimizing Our Climate Impact*. These videos are continually being added to for your viewing pleasure. I look forward to a fulfilling year for FFCV!

## Events Committee in Action

Laura Keeton, Chair

Despite Covid, we were able to have some fun events during 2020. We visited the Quarry Gardens in Schuyler, traveled to Wytheville to attend the Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theater, had a summer picnic at the Keeton’s, a JAG student gathering at Spitler’s and finally a Christmas dinner at the Pub. As far as I know, no one became ill after our events.

We have no planned events for the winter months. Potential Ideas: In spring, it would be nice to again go the Quarry Gardens and then Ginter Park Botanical Gardens in Richmond, Rt 5 plantations, and possibly Swannanoa. Going into summer, the mystery room in Charlottesville, the DDay memorial in Bedford, a tour of Appomattox. In the fall, Maymont has a wonderful light display featuring the changing leaves in the Japanese Gardens.

Hang tight and pray for an end to this virus and maybe we can continue with some events.

## JAG School

*Bing Spitler, Chair*

### 2020 Jag Students Boat Ride and Luncheon

On November 8<sup>th</sup>, the International JAG (Judge Advocate General) Students were invited to Lake Monticello as the guests of FFCV to take a ride around the 350-acre Lake Monticello on member Bing Spitler's pontoon boat.



All Aboard!

The students were excited to learn that each would take a turn at the wheel and captain the boat. "They had a great time." Spitler said. Each were nervous and some didn't know what to think as they come from land locked countries; however, they accepted the challenge with big smiles, and we all survived.



LTC Sikaaswe, Zambia



Maj Lee, South Korea



1LT Awad, Jordan

Following the boat ride, our liaison to the JAG School, Larry Moore, drove the students over to the PUB at Lake Monticello for a light lunch. Several FFI student sponsors also attended and new friendships were made.



Introductions at the Pub at Lake Monticello, Virginia

## **JOURNEYS**

*Deb Winslow, Chair*

Outbounds 2021:

Dependent on the status of the pandemic and the rollout of the vaccine this is our projected journey plans. Additional planning is on hiatus until we see how both progress.

International: We will be going to Krems, Austria in mid-September. We plan to schedule short excursions to Vienna, Strasburg, and Budapest surrounding our Club visit to Austria.

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

Inbound 2021:

Global: Our Club will be providing a Global journey to showcase our local wineries, breweries, cideries and distillery. We are planning the ambassadors' visit in mid-October when the weather is still pleasant, and the leaves may be beginning to turn. A planning group has begun to plan for all the fun ahead. Stay tuned.

## **Membership**

*Peggy Colville, Chair*

We are off to a good start, thanks to all of you who have already sent us your 2021 Membership Applications. I am hoping we can soon be back meeting and greeting each other and enjoying once again this great organization. As you can see from Deb Winslow's report, we have a few trips in the making and with the Global Exchange coming up in October, I am sure David Burns would like to have all-hands-on-deck for that one. Laura Keeton has provided some great ideas but I am sure we would all welcome any of your suggestions. If for any reason you have not returned your application, please call me and let me know your intentions for the coming year. We would love to put together another great roster for the year and you could really help us with that. My telephone number is 434-589-2844 and my email is [peggysmith1@hotmail.com](mailto:peggysmith1@hotmail.com).

We wish each of you a Healthy New Year and are looking forward to working with you in making this 2021 Friendship Force year a great one.

## **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](mailto:camd68@gmail.com) or 434-589-7613.

## Member News



Lynn Wirth	1/6
Judy Lesiak	1/15
Helen Moyer	1/31
Kathy Stacy	2/4
Peggy Birdsall	2/24
Walter O'Connell	2/28

Copies of the Ambassador Newsletter are available on our website:  
[www.friendshipforcecv.org](http://www.friendshipforcecv.org)

The BOD meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month starting at 3:00PM. During the pandemic, they will be Zoom Meetings. Contact President Patty Sclater if you would like to join in any of them. We welcome your participation.



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None in Jan/Feb	

*Did we miss your special day?*

*Let Peggy Colville know so we can update our records.  
 434-589-2844 or [peggy-smith1@hotmail.com](mailto:peggy-smith1@hotmail.com)*

*Friendship Force of Central Virginia  
2021 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](http://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](http://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 2021. (Partners do separately when your interests diverge).

Exchange Activities		Other Club Work and Activities	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Go on an Outbound Journey	<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Communications/Publicity Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Outbound Journey Planning Comm.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Fund Raising Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inbound Journey Planning Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Event Planning Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inbound Journey Home Host	<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Membership Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inbound Journey Day Host	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inbound Journey Small Dinner Host	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Community Activities and Service	
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Sponsor a JAG student
<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Work on a Community Outreach Project

**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, Peggy Colville, 315 Village Blvd. Palmyra, VA 22963.