



friendship force

CENTRAL VIRGINIA

Changing the Way You See the World

The Ambassador

January 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a full 2023, with a return to regular membership meetings with speakers, augmented by a number of club activities.

Your club Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs for 2023 are as follows:

Officers

President – Patty Sclater
Vice President – Willow Drinkwater
Treasurer – David Lea
Secretary – Deb Winslow

Committee Chairs

Membership – Peggy Colville
JAG School – Bing Spitler
Journey – Deb Winslow
Communications – LeRoy Moyer
Fundraising – Linda Gehle
Outreach – Carol Donohus
Events – Susan Suthering

Directors

Bing Spitler, Josh Hung, Peggy Colville, Al Colville, Linda Gehle

Willow Drinkwater and Leroy Moyer, past presidents, rejoin the board as Vice President and Communications Chair, respectively. I have agreed to serve as President again in 2023. In addition to serving as Journey Chair, Deb Winslow will be our Secretary this year. Ensuring continuity, David Lea, Bing Spitler, Josh Hung, Peggy Colville, Al Colville, Linda Gehle and Carol Donahue will continue their roles.

We have made some changes to the frequency of membership and board meetings. The club will meet for regular meetings on alternating months, beginning in January. The board will also meet on alternating months, beginning in February. Board meetings are open to the membership. If you would like to attend any or all, you are welcome to attend.

Looking forward to seeing each of you at future club events,

Patty

Outbound 2022:

International: We had a wonderful trip to Krems, Austria in September.



Ten folks went on the journey, four from our club and six from clubs throughout North America.



Five of the group continued on to the 11-day extension to the Imperial Cities of Prague, Vienna and Budapest.

Outbound 2023:

International: We are in the planning stages for our trip to Africa. We were assigned Iringa, Tanzania and Cape Town, South Africa. We will be going to Iringa first in early October with a possible safari and then on to Cape Town. A Google form was sent out to let me know if you are interested in going. If you haven't filled it out and are interested, please fill it out or let me know.

Domestic: Our visit to Birmingham, AL is scheduled for April of 2023. Final arrangements have not been made. Will know more in the new year.

Inbound 2023:

Domestic: We are expecting Western Montana that was postponed from 2022. Dates have not been determined, but are talking about mid-May. I have been contacted by their club. They have only 5 persons interested in traveling this year. We need to decide whether we wish to host only 5 people, expand to other clubs or cancel the journey. We will discuss at the next membership meeting.

Deb Winslow
Chair, Journey Committee

Friendship Force 2022 Events

Despite the end of covid shut down but the disease still lingering, we planned events for every month. Some were unsuccessful due to busy schedules or weather. Following is the run down of all events planned for this past year.

We started the year with a soup and salad luncheon to introduce board members and update the membership on our future travel opportunities and events. In March we had Tom show slides at the Independence Club house showing Virginia indigenous plants with many instructions on what and when to plant.

In May we were to visit historic Berkley and Shirley Plantation with lunch at Shirley Vineyard but it was cancelled due to no one able to make it.

In June we met at Independence and had Walter Juraszek share his homeland, Poland, with many posters from the Polish embassy, tastes of Poland and his wife dressing in the native costume.

Again we had to cancel a visit civil war museum in Gordonsville and lunch at Ice House due to lack of interest.

In August we got to experience Ecuador with Guadalupe Juraszek with tasting and slides at Independence.

In September, Bing and Joyce Spitler hosted a labor day Jag Student picnic where the students got to explore Lake Monticello by pontoon boat and even take a turn at driving.

We planned to attend the Fiber Festival and sheep dog trials at Montpelier in October but we had the end of a hurricane to contend with which canceled the festival.

We had a covered dish in November where our Japanese Jag student gave a presentation of his country. December 18, 3:00-Christmas party at Keeton's

In Friendship - Laura Keeton

Upcoming January Meeting

The FFCV January Membership meeting is coming up on Saturday, January 21st at 2:00 at The Independence in Charlottesville. It will be a "Bring Your Own Snack and Beverage" event. Deb. Winslow and David Lea will be presenting their slides and walking us through their experiences in Budapest, Vienna and Prague on their recent Journey.. We will also hear about upcoming trips and events. This would be a good time to bring any of your friends who might be interested in joining us. Hope to See You There!!!

Any questions concerning this event, you can call: me at 434-589-2844.

Peggy Coville

AWAY WITH THE OLD – FOR A NEW BEGINNING

Thanks to Bob and Laura Keeton and Deborah Winslow, we can say our club had a Wonderful Christmas Celebration. What a beautiful setting for a Christmas party and what could be better than topping it off with delicious food. Many thanks to the three of you

Thanks, also to all you members who came with your 2023 applications and checks, already filled out and the ones who forgot but were eager to fill theirs out to start our club on our way to a great beginning for 2023. What a help for David Lea and myself in getting our 2023 roaster off to a Great start and getting the information to Atlanta in a fashionable way.

Of course, what’s a Christmas party without the singing of the “12 Days of Christmas”. With Bob on the organ and Laura as our leader, you could call it a Hoot. To start with Alan Drinkwater getting his days mixed up and Bing Spitler with his own version of “5 Golden Rings”. Then Helen-Ida Moyer spontaneously getting up and singing in Spanish. What a beautiful voice and delivery. I am sure Major Osvaldo Martinez Beto from Mexico and his daughter, Lourdes Regina Martinez Ancheyta were as presently surprised as we all were. Thank you, Helen-Ida for sharing your talent. Linda, we should have recorded that as it would have been a great Fundraiser. For anyone sad – just to listen to that would certainly cheer them up.



Let me end with this – Beautiful home, great food, sharing friendship and the sound of laughter is the very best Christmas gift one can get. I am so proud to be a member of such a club so filled with Beautiful People.

Anniversaries

Al and Peggy Colville	Mar 17	Mary Ann & Barry Doucette	Oct 29
Pam and Paul Hokanson	Jun 12	Vicki and Mike Argie	Dec 06
LeRoy and Helen Ida Moyer	Aug 03	Bing & Joyce Spitler	Dec 27
Willow & Alan Drinkwater	Oct 06		

Friendship Force Central Virginia/ JAG Report

August 8, 2022, several members of Central Virginia Friendship Force member sponsors met with Colonel Tonya Blackwell, United States Army, and Dean, of the University of Virginia Judge Advocate Generals (JAG) Law School. Our club supports international students who attend the JAG School for a period of nine months as part of their graduate course. This year there are 6 students from Iraq, Czech Republic, Israel, Korea, Mexico, and Japan. Central Virginia Friendship Force has sponsored foreign students for many years as a means of building friendships with these young people as they learn about the United States. Colonel Blackwell indicated that we are a vital part of the Jag School's community commitment and a respected partner.

We are pleased to have completed another year of relations with the University of Virginia Judge Advocate General's (JAG) School. During this past year we graduated a class and received a new class in August. Our current students are Col. Horcika, Czeck Republic; Lt. Col. Agele, Iraq; Major Chen, Israel; Major Kim, Korea; Major Beto, Mexico; and Major Kanno, Japan. This class enjoyed a picnic at Lake Monticello, a Friendship Gathering (Thanksgiving Dinner) at Willow Drinkwater's home and a Christmas Celebration at Laura and Bob Keaton's home.



Members of Friendship Force Central Virginia enjoying dinner with two students from the JAG School, (Major Beto and Lt. Col. Agele on the right) at the Drinkwater Home in November.

Bing Spitler

Birthdays

Judith Lesiak	Jan 15	Steve Cooley	Aug 13	Joyce Spitler	Oct 05
Helen Ida Moyer	Jan 31	Linda Gehle	Aug 27	Deb Winslow	Oct 22
Peggy Birdsall	Feb 24	Vicki Argie	Aug 31	David Lea	Nov 02
Barry Doucette	Mar 12	Susan Sutherling	Sep 04	Michael Argie	Nov 04
Alan Drinkwater	Mar 19	Henry Haefele	Sep 07	Dale Walden	Nov 15
Peggy Birdsall	Mar 24	Susan Roberts	Sep 07	Tom Baugh	Dec 10
Pam Hokanson	Mar 29	Bob Harris	Sep 20	Vicki Argie	Dec 26
Willow Drinkwater	Apr 26	Lita Flowers	Sep 21	Michael Argie	Dec 26
Paul Hokanson	Apr 27	Peggy Colville	Sep 27	Carol Donohue	Dec 26
Al Colville	Jun 16	Patty Sclater	Oct 03	Bing Spitler	Dec 30
Josh Hung	Jul 07	Mary Ann Doucette	Oct 05		
LeRov Mover	Jul 07				

**Friendship Force of Central Virginia
2023 Membership/Renewal**



**CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD**

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

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

**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 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 Host

Other Club Work and Activities

<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Communications/Publicity Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Fundraising Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Event Planning Committee
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve on Membership Committee

Community Activities and Service

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sponsor a JAG Student
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work on Community Outreach Projects

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.