



friendship force

BIG CANOE -
NORTH GEORGIA

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January 2020
Newsletter

CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD

Coming Events



January 19, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.

Regular monthly meeting at Fuego's Mexican Restaurant in Marble Hill. "Blast from the Past".

February 20, 2020

Three-way journey to Callaway Gardens.

April 27, 2020

Joint Incoming journey from West Alajuela, Costa Rica, and Des Moines, Iowa.

September, 2020

Open World

October 15, 2020

Outgoing journey to Trujillo, Peru.



A Word from Sherry

Hello 2020, a great year in the making for FFBCNG! Welcome to our members, old and new. We have lots of plans for our club year. First, let me ask you to SAVE TWO DATES IN JANUARY:

1/13 our new board's first meeting will be held at my home at 1 p.m. Board meeting dates will always be shared in advance and any club member with something to discuss is welcome to join us.

1/19 our January club meeting. Details will be shared elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our journey coordinators have been busy planning for lots of firsts:

2/20 to 2/22 our first interclub social at Callaway Gardens.

4/27 to 5/4 our first multi-club inbound journey.

10/15 our first journey to Peru.

We will be welcoming our SECOND Open World delegation from Ukraine in September. Some of our members will be visiting Kyiv, Ukraine, this year.

We have a terrific group of members on our board and standing committees. They will be reaching out to you during the year, asking for your help on journeys and projects. Please feel free to contact me with questions and/or concerns.

Your Prez, Sherry



A Word from our Membership Chairperson

I hope everyone who attended enjoyed the video shown at the November meeting. In case you missed it or want to see it again, put this address in your internet browser: <https://vimeo.com/194675995>

Reminder: Annual dues should have been paid by now: \$30 for an individual, or \$60 for a couple. If you haven't yet paid, please fill out the form attached to this newsletter and mail with your check to the address on the form.

Bob



Future Meetings

January – Our January meeting will be on the 19th at 2:00 p.m. at Fuego's Mexican Restaurant, located in the Foothills Shopping Center off Hwy 53. The program will be a "Blast from the Past" with a showing of our most recent exchange at Ottawa

and a showing of one of our first exchanges to England. We will have a couple that went on one of our early exchanges talk to us about their experience.

February – Many of us will be participating in a weekend, 3-way journey with neighboring clubs at Callaway Gardens.



Upcoming Journeys

AN UPDATE OF OUR 2020 CLUB YEAR

Having finished with a very successful Open World visit from Ukraine, our club is now turning our attention to the upcoming journeys in 2020.

Journey 20171 from West Alajuela, Costa Rica, to Big Canoe, April 27 to May 4, 2020: Peggy Anderson, peggysue48@windstream.net, is the Journey Coordinator for our club. She has been in contact with the JC from the West Alajuela club. They anticipate 13 to 15 ambassadors. They are working on coordinating with the West Alajuela club's visit to Charlotte, i.e., the transportation from Charlotte to Atlanta.

Journey 20324 from Greater Des Moines to Big Canoe, April 27 to May 4, 2020: Bob Anderson, bobanderson48@windstream.net, is the Journey Coordinator for our club. He has been in contact with the JC from Greater Des Moines. They are working on coordinating with Greater Des Moines' visit to Knoxville. At this point, Greater Des Moines indicates that they will send 11 ambassadors.

We are fortunate to have the Peggy and Bob team pulling this 3-way visit together for us. Both are experienced Journey Coordinators. With a potential total of 30 we will need everyone to help with

these journeys. **Please consider what role you can play on the journey committees and let Peggy and/or Bob know.**

Journey 20044 Big Canoe to Trujillo, Peru, October 15, 2020: Coordinator Phil Waldrop received emails that provided potential itineraries for our pre- or post-Journey optional extension. The Lansing Michigan club visited Trujillo in 2018, and sent a copy of their extension itinerary; two other proposed itineraries were provided by a recommended tour consultant. Copies of these were shared with our club members in a December 31 email. As of January 5 the only feedback to Phil has been from Alan and Mary Ellen Johnson, saying that they prefer the itinerary that was enjoyed by the Lansing, MI club, and recommend we do the extension before, rather than after our hosted visit to the Trujillo club due to the approaching rainy season (typically beginning in November).

Phil asks all of us who intend to travel to Trujillo to provide feedback comments about the timing (pre or post-Journey) and choices of the itinerary for our extension. For those of us who are still "riding the fence" about the Trujillo home-hosted Journey, it will be very helpful to let Phil know that you are still considering it at this time. We need to finalize our own club 'headcount' as soon as we can - with the option of adding a few of our "undecided" as a continuing possibility - so that we know how many additional Ambassadors we need to/are able to recruit from another club.

Please let Phil know if you would like to help in the journey planning.

We are planning an **interclub social weekend** (see separate article) with the Birmingham and Huntsville clubs at Callaway Gardens in late February. Mary Ellen Johnson, eajohnson@etcmail.com, has been involved in that planning.

We will host another **Open World Ukrainian delegation in September**. That gives us a very full year in 2020.



Three-Club Gathering at Callaway Gardens

Big Canoe/North Georgia, Birmingham, and Huntsville are planning to mix and mingle for a two-night stay February 20-22 at Callaway Resort & Gardens in Pine Mountain, GA, 60 minutes southwest of Atlanta's airport. We plan to target the 2/3/or 4-bedroom Villas or the 2-bedroom Cottages for our stay. The 4-bedroom standard villa rents for \$1249 for 2 nights, or \$312 per bedroom.

There are many activities in Callaway, including golf, tennis, the Gardens and the Butterfly Center, as well as outside Callaway, including Warm Springs, Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park, Pine Mountain. One or two nearby dinners in the Pine Mountain area are planned for the get-together, and other informal gatherings will take place among the Villa encampments. Breakfasts can be prepared in the kitchenettes.

Gather your group, make your reservations, and get to know members of the Birmingham and Huntsville clubs. Call Mary Ellen or Linda Kadechuk if you need more information.



Brenda provided the following information about herself:

I moved to Big Canoe from Amelia Island in May 2019. I like the beach but I love the mountains. I purchased a home on Ridgeview Drive so I could enjoy the beautiful mountains every day (except when I am in the clouds). Prior to Amelia Island I lived in the Atlanta area. I retired in 2013 from a career in human resources.

I have two children and two grandchildren. One grandchild is a senior at Clemson and the other is a second year medical student. As you can imagine it isn't easy carving time out of their schedule to be with Grammy. I am trying to instill the love of travel in each of them so I am taking my granddaughter to Iceland in December and my grandson to Australia in May 2020. I love traveling with them.

As I told someone at the previous meeting, I traveled as a tourist for many years and now would like to travel to make new friends in new places.



New Members

Brenda Peale

Bob and Karen Bachman



Bob provided the following information about himself and Karen:

Born and raised in Syracuse, New York, Robert (Bob) Bachman earned an Associate Degree in Respiratory Therapy and a Bachelor's degree in Business Management and Economics from the State University of New York. After moving to Atlanta he earned a healthcare MBA from Mercer University.

He was a Respiratory Therapist at Duke University Hospital for a year before moving to Atlanta in 1975. He was a Respiratory Therapist at Grady Memorial Hospital, where he served as Chief Therapist. He was recruited to serve as Director of Respiratory Care Services at Crawford Long Hospital of Emory University (now Emory University Hospital Midtown). In 1984 he was promoted to Hospital Assistant Administrator and served for 7 years. He served as Director of Medical Education Services for the Emory University School of Medicine from 1991-2000. From 2000-2017 he served as Chief Operating Officer, then as Chief Executive Officer of Emory University Hospital and Emory University Orthopaedics and Spine Hospital. Emory University Hospital was the first hospital in the Western Hemisphere to accept patients with the Ebola virus.

Bob has served in a variety of Leadership positions, including in the Woodruff Leadership Academy, the Board of the Decatur Rotary Club, the American Heart Association, and others.

Bob has been married to Karen Fierke Bachman for 37 years. They have two children; Stephen, 27, who lives in Denver and Katie, 25, who lives in

Atlanta.

Bob and Karen bought a condo in Big Canoe in 2016 - just to test the water. They have fallen in love with Big Canoe and currently live in Choctaw Village.



December Meeting

The December meeting was the annual club holiday party. The president presided.

The new board was announced:

President	Sherry Wileman
First vice president-president/elect	Barry Kadechuk
Second vice president	Tim Anderson
Treasurer	Robert Logan
Secretary	Diane Briscoe
Activities	Peggy Anderson
Cares and Concerns	Jeannette Waldrop
Public Relations	Mary Ellen Johnson
Membership	Bob Anderson
Newsletter and Web Site	Ray Bowyer

It was announced that we have an area get-together with the Birmingham and Huntsville clubs on February 20 and 21. The charge will be #312 per couple for two nights in a four-bedroom villa. This replaces the February meeting.

It was announced that the January meeting will be at Fuegos on January 19 at 2:00 p.m. The pro-

gram will be videos of our recent journey to Ottawa.

Information was provided on the incoming journey from Costa Rica and Des Moines, Iowa. They will be here at the same time: April 27 through May 4. We need housing for all the ambassadors.

Information was provided on the journey to Peru October 15, 2020. There is some concern about altitude sickness.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Alan and Mary Ellen Johnson celebrated their 40th anniversary with a cruise in the South Pacific. They reported having a wonderful time.

February

1	Jeanette Crawford
5	Marie Williams
8	John Paolino
9	Jean Edwards
11	Sherry Wileman
23	Huw Williams



Cares and Concerns

Margie Bowyer fell on December 5 and broke her back. She was unable to attend the December meeting, but she expects to attend the January meeting.

Joys and concerns included sending out seasonal greetings and notes of encouragement to five of our long-time members who are no longer able to actively participate in our activities as well as phone conversations and visits with three other members.

Joe and Von Crawford are still in residence at 90 Grandwater Drive, Suwanee, GA 30024 until late February or early March, when they will be moving into an apartment at Celebration Village. Their new address will be available shortly before their move.

Another member, Bobbie Garner is a spry 91 and promises to get to a meeting soon.

Harry Yarborough, a friend to many of us, sounds very strong and very happy in his new living situation in Greenwood, SC. Harry sends best wishes to all of us for a happy and healthy 2020.

Jean Mosschart is having double knee replacement later this month.

To all of our members comes a message to be on the lookout for your Birthday Greeting in 2020 from President Sherry Wileman.

I wish to remind all of you that whenever you hear of illnesses, family losses or joyful events to call or text me and I will act on your request.

Happy New Year from your Cares Chairperson.

Jeannette W. 706-299-4972©



Opportunity

A thriving international metropolis at the southern tip of Taiwan and host club to FFI's 2021 World Conference, Kaohsiung was the host city for the 2009 World Games. Due to the regulating effects of the marine climate, Kaohsiung is generally sunny and enjoys pleasant weather year-round. Known as "Taiwan's Maritime Capital," it is the second largest metropolis in Taiwan and is the home of the largest and busiest harbor in the country. It is an ethnic melting pot, joining Hokkien and Hakka communities, the Pingpu, Tsou, Rukai, Bunun, and Paiwan indigenous tribes, and a military community culture. Kaohsiung also offers scenic mountains, ocean views, and rivers, as well as port, cultural, and historic attractions.

The members of the Friendship Force of Kaohsiung have a wonderful week of cultural experiences they will share including visits to Lotus Pond, the National Kaohsiung Center for the Arts, Kenting National Park, & Cijin Island, as well as a variety of other cultural experiences in this city known as one of Asia's great foodie destinations!

The journey is scheduled for March 20 to 27, 2020. Registration is required by January 31. For more information or to register, contact Journey Coordinator Bambi Saxe at 937-429-5243 or jonandbambi@gmail.com.



We welcome information for future issues of this newsletter. To make it informative and interesting we need information about what is going on in the club. If you have something you could share, such as committee updates, member updates, or photos of your recent travels, please share it. Send by e-mail or telephone call to the newsletter editor:

Ray Bowyer

raybowyer@earthlink.net

770-366-3736

Deadline for the February issue is February 6, 2020.



friendship force
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NORTH GEORGIA

2020 Membership Renewal Application

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone# _____

Cell Phone (s)# _____

Email Address(es) _____

Birthdays _____

Membership Dues ___ \$30 per year Individual

 ___ \$60 per Year Couple

**Return To: Robert Logan, Treasurer, 741 Oakdale Rd, Canton, GA
30114**