



friendship force

BIG CANOE -  
NORTH GEORGIA

**June  
2021  
Newsletter**

a world of friends is a world of peace

<http://ffbcng.org>

### Coming Events

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| June 27, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.    | Regular monthly meeting at Grandview Lake Clubhouse.                                  |
| July, 2021                     | Joint meeting with Lake Hartwell club at North Georgia History Center in Gainesville. |
| August, 2021                   | Joint meeting with Western North Carolina club in Greenville, South Carolina.         |
| October 23 to November 1, 2021 | Inbound journey from Des Moines, Iowa   |
| May, 2022                      | Outbound journey to Des Moines, Iowa  |
| 2022                           | Outbound journey to San Antonio, Texas  |

**sign up for the Friendship Force International web site:** To sign up, connect to [https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/users/sign\\_in](https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/users/sign_in), then click SIGN UP.

The club has established the policy that all ambassadors on journeys and all hosts must provide proof of vaccination for Covid-19.



### A Few Words From Sherry

It sounds like Dan and I missed a fun picnic in May. We were in Savannah for the high school graduation of our oldest grandson. We just returned from our annual visit to Callaway Gardens with all seven of the grandchildren; the Summer Family Adventure has been our family tradition since the 1980's!

Many thanks to Barry for leading the May meeting, to Tim and Lenna for hosting and to the Activities Committee for their planning and execution. Remember that our June meeting is on the FOURTH SUNDAY due to Fathers' Day.

### **MY.FRIENDSHIPFORCE.ORG**

If you have not created your account on my.friendshipforce.org, you will not be receiving the notifications of blogs that have been added to the website. New blogs have been posted on my.friendshipforce.org.

### **Quarterly Financial Update**

Christiane Beaupré, Treasurer, FFI International Board of Directors May 27, 2021

### **FFI Book Club: Our First Book!** **(Read In English)**

Friendship Force International  
May 27, 2021

### **DAY JOURNEY IN AUGUST – HELP WANTED**

Our club received an invitation from the Western North Carolina club to participate in a “day experience” with their club, meeting somewhere between our two clubs' locations. That email arrived just before our scheduled board meeting. Some of our members remember exchanging visits with the Asheville club, visiting them in 2002 and hosting them in 2005. Our board voted to meet with the Western North Carolina club in Greenville, SC, in August. I am currently acting as the Journey Coordinator for the day experience and invite you to consider **servng as a co-coordinator**. This would be a great way to learn about planning a journey! Since it is only a day, with a potential overnight stay, being co-coordinator would not be a major commitment of time. Please give this consideration and contact me at [slwileman@mindspring.com](mailto:slwileman@mindspring.com) or give me a call at 404-386-9224.

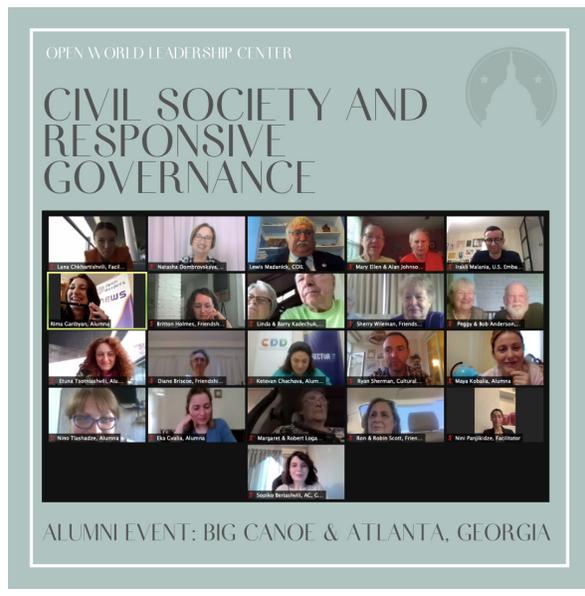
### **OUTBOUND INTERNATIONAL JOURNEY IN 2022**

Our club's outbound journey match was with the Tere-Rio, Brazil, club for 2022. Our board decided that we could not commit to that journey at this time due to the pandemic's impact in that country. I notified the Regional Support Manager at FFI that she could release the journey to another club.

**FROM THE OPEN WORLD LEADERSHIP CENTER ON JUNE 10TH**

“Today the Center hosted an engaging virtual event for alumni from the Republic of Georgia who traveled to Big Canoe and Atlanta, Georgia, in 2016. Welcoming the alumni was Christopher Anderson, the Cultural Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in the Republic of Georgia, and Britton Holmes, Regional Support Manager for Friendship Force International.

Participants spent time with their host families, where they were able to update each other on their personal and professional developments and discuss how the Open World program influenced their lives. Reminiscing about positive shared memories was a gratifying experience for all attendees at the event. The Center is delighted we could reunite such an impactful group of people and look forward to seeing this relationship grow.”



I look forward to seeing everyone at the June meeting.

President Sherry



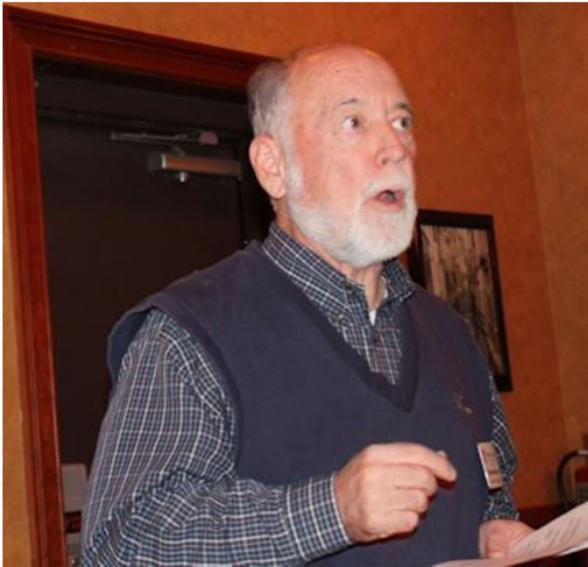
**Future Meetings**

The next meeting will be on June 27<sup>th</sup> – the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. We will be at the Grandview Clubhouse from 2:00 to 4:00. Alan Johnson has kindly agreed to grill hot dogs and hamburgers. The members signed up to bring certain items at the May meeting. Peggy will be emailing you what you agreed to bring. If you were not at the May meeting, contact her (706-579-1708) about our needs for the meal. We have been told that parking spaces are few so please carpool, or we can meet at Dollar General (Cove and Grandview Rds.) and carpool from there. Once again, let Peggy know if you will be doing the latter. Swimming will be available if you are so inclined.

July Meeting – We are waiting to hear about a joint meeting with Lake Hartwell FFI Club. We will meet at the North GA History Center in Gainesville. After-

wards, we will go to Mellow Mushroom for a meal. Stay tuned to find out more details in the July Newsletter.

August Meeting – Also, in the planning stages, a joint meeting with the Western Carolina FF Club. We are talking about meeting in Greenville, SC, for an overnight adventure.



### Next Journey

Our Club will be hosting the Greater Des Moines Club in late October. Tim A. and Bob A. will serve as co-journey directors. Please sign up and help in whatever way you can. For our newbies, here is a brief description of the subcommittees that are necessary to assure a good visiting experience.

**TRANSPORTATION**—basically getting our visitors (and their luggage) to and from the airport if necessary; generally our visitors will meet their home

hosts at a centralized location.

**HOME HOSTS**—provide a bedroom and breakfast for one or two guests (or more if needed and space is available); transportation to local program events if available; one day is scheduled as a “free day” where hosts may take their guests to an activity that fits their special interests.

**WELCOME PARTY**—reserve venue, select menu, coordinate food (salad, dessert, potluck?), table decorations, etc.

**PROGRAM EVENTS**—planning events primarily in North Georgia, including museums, state parks, lunches, etc.; one day in the Atlanta area (Carter Center, Civil Rights Museum, etc.) may also be planned.

**DAY HOSTS**—day hosts provide transportation to our ambassadors whenever it may be needed during the visit.

**DINNER HOSTS**—for those not home or day hosting, prepare a dinner in your home for 8-10 club members and ambassadors.

**FAREWELL PARTY**—reserve venue, select menu or restaurant, entertainment, etc.

Tim and Bob will be asking for volunteers for each of these subcommittees and will guide you through the process. Our visiting ambassadors generally pay an advance of \$150-\$200 each for the week’s events including any meals, so budgeting is important. Tradition has it that the ambassador(s)

treat their home host(s) out to a thank you dinner that is scheduled some night during the visit.

This journey will be discussed more at the June meeting and have a sign-up sheet so we have time to prepare for our October visitors. Looking ahead, we are scheduled to visit the Des Moines club in spring 2022.



### May Meeting

The May meeting was held at the home of Tim and Lena A. It started with a delicious fried-chicken dinner.

The activities chairperson made the following announcements:

- The June meeting will be at the Grandview Lake clubhouse.
- The July meeting is tentatively a joint meeting with the Lake Hartwell club.
- The August meeting is tentatively a wine-tasting event.

It was announced the incoming journey from Des Moines is tentatively October 23 to November 1. Members will be asked at the June meeting to sign up for committee positions.

Two new members were welcomed.

It was announced that we are considering hosting some foreign high-school age youth, who would be with us for five days.

After the meeting, interested members participated in a corn-hole tournament.



### Friendship Force Online (MyFF) Is Live!

FROM FFI: “The Friendship Force online experience was developed with you in mind. We wanted something to sit perfectly alongside how we already work with our members. A simple, clear tool that will eventually house all our member resources and exclusive member-only content and keep you up to speed with news from FFI and around the world. The minimum information required to sign up is your name, club and email address.





### Next Issue

From the Cares & Concerns Desk: Deadline for the July issue is July 4, 2021.

Sharon M. is mourning the unexpected loss of her father. Her dad passed away eight days after receiving a cancer diagnosis.



### July Birthdays

- 2 Margie B.
- 7 Sharon M.
- 18 Harry Y
- 21 Floyd H.

### LINKS FOR INFORMATION ON FFI WEBSITE

Sign up for a Pen Pal from FFI (<https://blog.friendshipforce.org/ffi-pen-pals-beta/>).

FFI staff has been busy with creating the News and Media blog (<https://blog.friendshipforce.org/>) and the new Virtual Experiences page (<https://blog.friendshipforce.org/virtual-experiences/>).

These provide an excellent way to stay in touch with the international community.

Are you signed up for the FFI newsletter? If not, you can sign up here <https://friendshipforce.us12.list-manage.com/subscribe/post?u=ba1bffc1cec3dcb20c97569d1&id=a5eb5f7351>