



friendship force

BIG CANOE -
NORTH GEORGIA

December
2021
Newsletter

a world of friends is a world of peace

<http://ffbcng.org>

Coming Events

December 12, 2021	End-of-year celebration meeting
May, 2022	Outbound journey to Des Moines, Iowa
October, 2022	Outbound journey to San Antonio, Texas
2023	Incoming journey from 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, 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

I hope that all of you had a marvelous Thanksgiving holiday! We have so much for which to give thanks. I am thankful for our club membership, especially those who pitch in and help with journeys, meetings, and all the other things we do to make our club successful. We have had a very successful second half of 2021 and I am looking forward to celebrating our success at our Holiday Party on December 12th!

The day of our Welcome Party for the Des Moines ambassadors, I was asked to write a letter of support for FFI. Allison Lindsey (VP Member Engagement) was helping Jeremi Snook (CEO and President) apply for a grant from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Here is what I wrote:

“When my husband and I joined our local Friendship Force club in 2014, we had no idea what the impact would be on our lives and those of our family and friends. The idea of traveling and making new friends both domestically and

internationally was enough to get us on board. We now understand the true meaning of citizen diplomacy and its impact.

Certainly, traveling and meeting new people has been wonderful, but we have gained something else. We call it an international perspective. So many Americans have never traveled to other countries or have visited only the tourist sites if they do go abroad. When FFI ambassadors visit and live with hosts in other countries, they learn about the culture and what is important to the citizens of that country. We find out how lucky we Americans are to have the freedom and lifestyle that we too often take for granted.

When we return home, we search for sources of news about the countries we have visited. We keep in touch with our hosts, and they visit us in our home and meet our family. In sharing our experiences with our family, we are opening the eyes of our children and grandchildren to the world at large. We bring that perspective to our relationships in our community.

When we host citizens of other countries, we have the opportunity to show them our American culture and how that differs from what movies and news programs show them. The sharing of culture and ideas is equally important when we visit or host American members of FFI. Sometimes the differences within our country are as surprising as those we experience internationally.

During the pandemic, the FFI team created new avenues for us to meet FFI

members throughout the world via activities and experiences on Zoom. They helped the local clubs keep members interested and involved. As we resume travel and journey to new locations, both domestically and internationally, we will continue to be citizen diplomats. We could not have this impact without Friendship Force International.”

Although our international travels have been curtailed by the pandemic, I hope you feel as I do, that hosting and visiting members of American clubs is also an extraordinary experience. For me, sharing the friendship of our club members is equally important. I am happy to serve as your President and to lead us into 2022!

President Sherry



Upcoming Meeting

December 12th – 2nd Sunday – Holiday Party in Canton! We will be meeting from 2:00 to 4:00 for our annual celebration of friendship. Sherry and Dan have generously opened their home once again for our party. Everyone please bring an appetizer to share. The club will supply the beverages and paper goods. We have some beef sliders and BBQ chicken leftovers from our journey with Des Moines; they are

safely frozen waiting for this event. See you then!

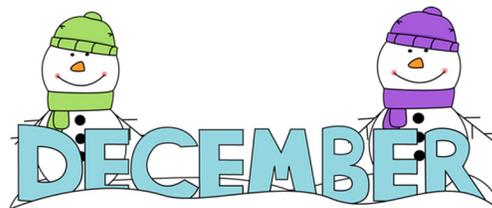
To get to their house, find your way to the intersection of Interstate 575 and Georgia 20 in Canton (exit 19). Go east on Georgia 20 for 1.9 miles. Turn right on Autumn Brook Drive and go 0.4 miles. Turn left on Evie Lane and go 0.4 miles. The address is 341 Evie Lane.



Des Moines Journey

The Des Moines ambassadors arrived on October 28 and departed on November 2. Here are some of the highlights of the journey:

- Chateau Meichtry
- Funk Heritage Center
- Booth Western Art Museum
- Pontoon boat ride on Lake Sconti in Big Canoe
- Amicalola Falls (picture above)





Future Journeys

Looking ahead, we are scheduled to visit the Des Moines club in spring 2022.

The following schedule has been established for 2023 journeys:

- December 31, 2021—Declare our hosting availability.
- March 18, 2022—Make our outbound requests.
- May 15, 2022—Assignments provided



New Officers

Report from the Nominations Committee:

I am pleased to report that the current slate of officers below for the Big Canoe/North Georgia Friendship Force Club were unanimously re-elected to serve another year in 2022. Thanks go out to other members of the Nominations Committee (Linda K., Alan J.) and to all club members who voted via email.

President--Sherry W.
 1st Vice-President-Barry K.
 2nd Vice-President-Tim A.
 Secretary-Diane B.
 Treasurer-Robert L.

Congratulations to all our officers for agreeing to serve our Club for another year!

Bob A.
 Chair, Nominations Committee



2022 Dues

Please see the attached application form for membership renewal. Friendship Force annual dues for

2022 were increased by the membership to \$35 per person in order to cover the cost of the FFI parent organization dues, which will be \$30 per person starting next year. With just about 50 members, we add about \$250 to our treasury in addition to existing deposits. These funds help us pay for paper products and some of the costs for our annual picnic and Christmas party as well as miscellaneous incidentals. Please mail in your check to our Treasurer, Robert Logan, or if planning to go to the Christmas Party on December 12th, you can bring a check and save the postage. Thanks!

Bob Anderson

Membership Chair



October-November Meeting

The October-November meeting consisted of supporting the incoming journey from Des Moines, covered elsewhere in this newsletter.



From the Cares & Concerns Desk:

Linda K. was put in the hospital due to three problems for which her cardiologist and pulmonologist could not find answers: kidney function numbers going down, very low blood pressure, and difficulty breathing when walking.

Linda says someone comes in every 20 minutes or so to do something to her. Hopefully, they can find the cause quickly.

Her address is

Piedmont Hospital
1968 Peachtree Road NW Rm. 635
Atlanta, GA 30309
404-605-5000

Please keep our friend Linda in your Thoughts and Prayers,

Jeannette W.,

Your Cares & Concerns Lady



January Birthdays

4	Bobbie G.
8	Diane B.
8	June T.
31	Lenna A.



Next Issue

We want input from you. If you have any information that might be of interest to other club members, send it to your newsletter editor:

Ray Bowyer
raybowyer@earthlink.net
770-366-3736

Deadline for the January issue is January 2, 2021.



Friendship Force International

You might be interested in some information about Friendship Force International.

The Board of Directors is charged with setting policy for the organization, establishing strategic direction and overseeing business operations.

- There are currently twelve members on the board of directors.
- Requirements for membership follow best practices for corporate boards.
 - The selection of members is accomplished through the Nominations Committee of the Board of Directors with recommendations to the full Board and final approval in the fourth quarter of the preceding year membership

The board of directors appoints the president and chief executive officer. The current holder of this position is Jeremi Snook (shown at the left).

The president and chief executive officer appoints a staff and region representatives. There are now ten staff members, in addition to Jeremi. Our current region representative is Ellen Gragg.

Friendship Force of Big Canoe/North Georgia is one of approximately 120 clubs, based throughout the world.



friendship force

BIG CANOE -
NORTH GEORGIA

2022 Membership Application

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone# _____

Cell Phone (s)# _____

Email Address(es) _____

Birthday: Month _____ *Day* _____

Membership Dues ___ \$35 per year Individual

 ___ \$70 per Year Couple

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

Please consider increasing your payment by a voluntary contribution of \$45.00 to honor the 45-year history of Friendship Force, and to help the organization through the difficult time caused by Covid-19.