



friendship force  
BIG CANOE -  
NORTH GEORGIA

February  
2023  
Newsletter

a world of friends is a world of peace

<http://www.ffbcng.org>

### Coming Events

March 19, 2023 , at 2:00, at Windermere Clubhouse in Cumming	Regular monthly meeting. Catered dinner. Program is a presentation on Petros Zoe, a community-based organization that has a mission of transforming the lives of youth.
April 7, 2023	Open World Delegates from Azerbaijan arrive
April 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.	Farewell party at Sherry and Dan's home in Canton. ALL FFBCNG MEMBERS ARE INVITED.
April 25, 2023	Outgoing journey to Greater Orlando, Florida
October 2, 2023	Friendship Force World Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia
November 1, 2023	Incoming journey from San Antonio
2024	Incoming journey from Siberia

**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.



ence. Details can be found on the FFI Website.

Barry



## President's Letter

We are looking forward to receiving our Open World Delegation from Azerbaijan; they will be with us from Friday, April 7th thru Saturday, April 15th. The delegation will consist of 5 delegates, 1 facilitator and a US based interpreter. Sherry and her committees have organized a great program and, hopefully, you will get a chance to meet our visitors while they are with us. We will be sure to post the schedule so that you will know their activities while they are in North Georgia. Thanks to all of the committee members and hosts for their participation in this program.

Orlando outgoing will be April 25th thru May 2nd. We have had some recent additions to our delegation. Thanks to Mary Ellen and Alan for their work organizing this journey.

Don't forget the World Conference which will be held in Dubrovnik, Croatia Oct 2-5; should be a great experi-

## Upcoming Meetings

March 19<sup>th</sup> – Regular monthly meeting at Windemere Clubhouse in Cumming from 2:00-4:00. We will have a catered dinner with an Azerbaijani flair. Each member will be charged \$15 for this meal. Here is the menu:

- Dolma with mast-o khiar (Rice stuffed grape leaves with cucumber yogurt dip)
- Mangal Salaty (Vegetable Salad - light and flavorful)
- Chicken Plov (Layered rice pilaf with chicken thighs and dried fruits and nuts); Lule Kabob (Minced Lamb kabob with lavash and diced onion)
- Pakhlava – Azerbaijani Baklava

The club will supply tea. If you prefer something else, you may bring it. Our

speaker will be Erin Magada. She will be sharing her experiences in Petros Zoe, a community-based organization that has a mission of transforming the lives of youth.

### OUR MARCH PROGRAM, ALL THE WAY FROM UGANDA

Erin Magada and Jessica Hogan are sisters who serve as a dynamic force in the Petros Zoe Initiative. They will be sharing their story with us at our March meeting. Erin is married to Magada Collins and is bringing her adorable son with her on their visit to the United States. They will also display, for sale, the gorgeous goods that the participants at Petros Zoe produce. Please come to the meeting with an open heart and wallet to support this marvelous organization. <https://www.petroszoe.org/>



To get there, find your way to the inter-

section of Georgia 400 and Georgia 20.

Take Georgia 20 eastbound 1.7 miles.

Turn right onto Trammel Road and go 2.0 miles.

Turn left onto Front 9 Drive and go 0.1 miles.

Turn right onto Marlow Drive.

Watch for the clubhouse on the left.

There will be no April or May meetings



due to our Open World and Orlando Journeys. The club annual picnic will be on June 11<sup>th</sup> at the home of Tim and Lenna Anderson.



### Upcoming Journeys



### OPEN WORLD DELEGATION FROM AZERBAIJAN

Our club will be hosting Open World delegates from Azerbaijan for a week in early April, with a program theme we have not encountered previously. The Open World planning committee is preparing a program to illustrate how theater in the US impacts the community and to consider all aspects from education to production and fund raising. The delegates are actors, actresses, singers, musicians, costume and set designers, and producers who produce plays under the name Jam Group. They want to learn from

their counterparts in our country.

The delegates are ages 19 to 42, so some of the delegates are just starting their career and one delegate (the one age 42) is more advanced in his career and works with the artists and develops plays as a team leader. Only the team leader is a fulltime theater professional.

The delegates will arrive in Atlanta on Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, after spending two days in Washington D.C. They will leave on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. All the delegates speak English, some better than others. A translator will accompany them throughout the week.

Club members will receive a copy of the program by separate email so that you can see how different this program is from our incoming FFI journeys. **All club members are invited to the Farewell Party for the delegates on Thursday, April 13**, at the home of Sherry and Dan in Canton. The food will be catered, so there will be a cost for club members that attend. Look for an evite closer to the date with full details.

### Greater Orlando

The Outbound Journey to the Greater Orlando Club April 25 - May 2 is in the planning stage. We are a small group so far, and are able to drive to Orlando. The real



Orlando has many natural springs and treasures that the Disney crowd doesn't see, in addition to a Club that is looking forward to hosting us and showing us their bit of paradise. The weather should be beautiful - not too hot or cold. You are welcome to join us if you let us know before the end of February.

Mary Ellen & Alan Johnson 706-253-4891



### February Meeting

The February meeting was held at Fuego's Restaurant in Marble Hill. President Barry K. presided.

The following announcements were made:

- The 2024 choices for international journeys have been submitted to FFI. The choices for domestic journeys will be submitted soon.
- The Open World delegation from Azerbaijan will be six delegates plus a facilitator.
- People from several other clubs have expressed interest in joining our journey to Orlando.
- The journey from Siberia will not

happen in 2023.

- The March meeting will be a catered lunch at Windermere clubhouse.

The program was a video on Azerbaijan.

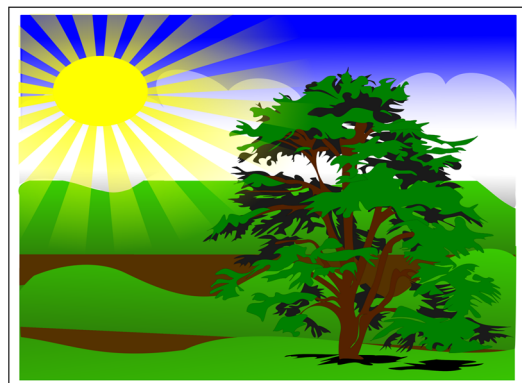


### World Conference

FFI is organizing a World Conference in Dubrovnik, Croatia this year (October 2-5, 2023). Pre and Post conference excursions will also be offered.

To learn more about the conference, copy the following address into your favorite browser:

[https://mailchi.mp/friendshipforce/wc2023update\\_030323?e=74b1ce724e](https://mailchi.mp/friendshipforce/wc2023update_030323?e=74b1ce724e)





### April Birthdays

3	Nancy D.
4	Bob A.
9	Jean G.
13	Joe L.
18	Ray B.



### Cares and Concerns

#### On The Road to Recovery

For three of our members February was a very difficult month health-wise. Vice President Tim Anderson lost the vision in his right eye. A tear in the retina was the cause which resulted in the need for surgery.

Tim was told that there would be immediate improvement, but that did not occur. Upon a second surgery a second tear was discovered and repaired. Tim is now able to see out of that eye. Prayers of thanksgiving are being offered on Tim's behalf. Our thoughts and prayers go out for both Tim and Lenna.

Marilee Laufenberg reports that she

is experiencing less pain and continued healing. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with you, dear one, as you continue to recover from your fall.

Margie Bowyer is now home. She is far from well, but the decision was made to continue her recovery there.

Upcoming Surgery: Bev Grimes is having surgery on March 21st for a ruptured disc. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers, She faces a 4-6 week recovery period. Please let this sweet lady know that you are thinking of her.

As always, if you know of members who could benefit from a call, card or visit, please contact me.

Your Cares & Concerns Lady,  
Jeannette W.



### Next Issue

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

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Deadline for the April issue is March 30, 2023.