



Friendship Connections

The Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley

MARCH, 2018

BREAKFAST SCRAMBLE INVITATION

By Barb Callner

Commonly asked questions about a Breakfast Scramble:

- **What is a Breakfast Scramble?**
It's a No-Host, Get Acquainted or Re-Acquainted Event. All Friendship Force members and friends of Friendship Force members are invited.
- **Where and when is this Breakfast Scramble?**
At Elmer's Restaurant, 2802 Santiam Hwy SE in Albany. **Monday, March 19 at 9 a.m.**
****Note this time change from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.**
- **Should I RSVP?**
Yes! By March 16, please let Barb Callner or Louise Claassen know if you will be attending. (see roster for addresses)
- **Is there a dress code?**
Of course! Please wear clothes.
- **Do I have to order something scrambled at a Breakfast Scramble?**
No, you don't even have to eat. Just come!
- **Are there requirements/rules/regulations of which I need to be aware?**
Of course! Smile, laugh and be ready to have fun!

Little known fact about the Breakfast Scramble as a life changer:

Four years ago, Chris Duval, read about FFOMWV in the Salem Statesman Journal. She contacted our club and was promptly invited to our Breakfast Scramble. She read the newsletters on our website and liked what she saw. Though a bit nervous to come into a new group, she gathered up her courage and made her way to Elmer's. Welcomed at the door by Pat Byers and Kay Macpherson, Chris enjoyed herself so much that she decided to join our FF group! And the rest is history!

I wonder whatever happened to her?

MEG – MEET, EAT, GET ACQUAINTED LUNCHEON BY JANE RAKONCZAY

The next MEG luncheon will be held at Venti's Café and Taphouse on Thursday, March 15th, at 11:30 a.m. The address is: 2840 Commercial St. SE, Salem and you can check out their menu at <http://wwwventiscafe.com>. They have vegan, vegetarian and gluten free options as well as regular fare.

Give Jane a call by Monday March 12th, if you plan to come so she can make the proper number of reservations. You are welcome to bring friends who may be interested in Friendship Force as well. Jane can be reached at her phone and email address listed in the membership roster. Hope to see you there!

*OUR CLUB IS ON FACEBOOK. PLEASE “LIKE” US AT
THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF OREGON’S MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY*

Calendar of Events

March 14, 1 p.m. Board meeting

Albany Public Library
250 14th Ave SE

March 15, 11:30 a.m. MEG Luncheon

Venti's Café and Taproom
2840 Commercial SE
Salem

March 19, Monday at 9 a.m.

Breakfast Scramble!

Elmer's Restaurant
2802 Santiam Hwy SE, Albany

**No board meeting or general meeting
In April due to our outbound journey.**

Sunshine News

Contact Sue Stein with news by phone or email address listed in the club's membership roster.



friendship force

INTERNATIONAL

Experience different views.
Discover common ground.

Friendship Force Pledge

As a member of the Friendship Force, I recognize that I can make a difference. I recognize that I have a mission. That mission is to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching me. I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and the people of other nations, the cause of friendship, love and peace can be furthered. I can make a difference.

This Issue of Connections, and more information about our club, may be found on our website: <http://www.fforegon.org>

Contact us at: fforegon@comcast.net or PO Box 1703, Albany, Oregon 97321

President's Message *by Chris Duval*

Friends:

March 1 is the day that Friendship Force International celebrates World Friendship Day each year. When looking back at our records, I found the following blog entry about our club's celebration in 2007. I think you will enjoy reading it.

"Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley Friendship Force club celebrated World Friendship Day on March 11, 2007, with a multiple-interest event in Albany, Oregon. The many flags from countries where our club has visited festooned the Albany Senior Center, along with tables decorated by members' artifacts from around the world.

Members and guests were invited to this Sunday afternoon event which began with a mini-concert by a brass quintet, playing a variety of styles of music. Following was an enjoyable time of line dancing, led by professional dance instructors. Most of those present participated in the dancing and laughter as we learned the steps, or tried to. A catered dinner followed the social hour, and the afternoon was concluded by an appeal for donations to the Legacy Fund. -- Dorothy Stewart, WFD Chair"

This year, we will celebrate with our "Breakfast Scramble" at Elmer's Restaurant in Albany on Monday, March 19. I hope you will come and celebrate with us and I hope you will consider bringing a friend and treating them to breakfast in honor of World Friendship Day.

Our friends are priceless gems. They support us, amuse us, and provide us with love and affection. Let them know how you feel about them during March as we together celebrate world friendship.

In friendship,

Chris

Journeys in 2018



OUTBOUND to Lima and Trujillo, Peru and Santiago, Chile – April 7 – 24

There will be a journey workshop at Mary Ellen and Dennis's home at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, March 12 to discuss the final plans for the journey and try to clear up as many remaining questions as possible (home address is listed in membership roster).

We have 14 ambassadors from our club and 7 from clubs in several other states. The bios that journey members wrote have been sent to all clubs and will also be posted for the ambassadors to read so we will begin to get acquainted with those from other FF clubs. Final schedules of events for the Peru and Santiago Clubs are still pending and host assignments will hopefully be available by the workshop date.

Time to be thinking about packing our bags, practicing our Spanish, anticipating friendships that we will form and the things that we will learn, and dreaming about the fun that we will have! Peru and Chile here we come!

Dennis Murphy, Journey Coordinator

INBOUND from Central North Carolina – June 6 – 12

Our visitors arrive at the Portland airport. From PDX we will travel to the Float Barn in Portland which is the site of the float building and decorating for the Grand Floral Parade on June 9. We will tour the barn to see volunteers decorating the floats. On our way home we will stop for dinner before meeting our hosts.

Other activities during the week include:

Thyme Garden for tour and luncheon

Visit to the **State Capitol** (perhaps we will meet and greet while there) and the **Willamette Heritage Center** (Mission Mill). Bus trip for the **Grand Floral Parade** (reserved seating inside),

Multnomah Falls and other gorge sites.

Small group dinners. Talking Water Gardens tour

Farewell dinner catered by Jacopetti's

The Central North Carolina Club members come from the Greensboro, High Point, and Winston-Salem area. We are anticipating 20 ambassadors and are advertising this Journey to other clubs in the US in order to fill the Journey. If you know someone who would like to join us, please share the flyer attached to this newsletter with them. All applications should be sent to Leroy Stokes, the Ambassador Coordinator (Marilyn has his contact information..

Please send your host application to Marilyn Peterson or Kathy Butler (our contact information is in membership roster). Home hosts, day hosts and small group dinner hosts are still needed. Thank you for volunteering to help.

Watch your email for the sign up opportunity to participate in this journey. Exact headcounts are needed for several of the activities during this journey so the Coordinators will be sending out sign up (and pre-payment forms) in May.

Marilyn Peterson and Kathy Butler, Journey Coordinators

INBOUND from Blumenau, Brazil - September 12-18

We have the great privilege of hosting Blumenau, Brazil, these are the same folks that hosted us in 2015. We had a bang up grand time there and now it our turn to show the best of Oregon. Blumenau is near the 27th parallel (we are on the 45th) with hills and rivers that historically were populated with German and Italians. Today they are like us, a mixture that celebrates the history of the Italians and German ancestors. There are hunting clubs that serve beer and brats along with target shooting, Octoberfest is celebrated and city buildings have the Munich look to them with a classic river through the city center. This is not carnival country, this is hard core European people transported to the new world with a unique Brazilian flair. Here is a glimpse of what our inbound Journey will look like:

12 Sep. Wednesday: Arrival Welcome Dinner

13 Sep. Thursday: Harrisburg Museum, Thompson Mill and Oakville Church for lunch. Dinner with hosts

14 Sep. Friday: Small Group Breakfast, Octoberfest

15 Sep. Saturday: Hood River and Mt. Hood. Group breakfast at Shawn & Kelly's.

Take vans to Vista house. Lunch at Multnomah Falls, ride sternwheeler at Cascade locks and dinner/lodging overnight in Hood River.

16 Sep. Sunday. After breakfast we head to Lost Lake for a picnic and then on to Timberline Lodge.

Home and dinner with hosts

17 Sep. Monday free day. Farewell Dinner

18 Sep Tuesday departure

Host a Brazilian or two? Here is the link to the print form. Please send or hand the completed form to Sharon Harr, Peter Harr or Sue Stein, our Matching and Application Committee.

https://www.thefriendshipforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/HOST_APPLICATION_and_agreement.pdf

As time goes on, Van, Patsy, Eileen and Ted will have worked out the member cost to go on the overnight. As always, it will be reasonable and fun and something will happen.

Ted Powell and Van Nichols, Journey Coordinators

UPCOMING GATHERINGS *by Chris Duval*

The March general meeting will be held on Sunday, March 19 during our "Breakfast Scramble" at Elmer's Restaurant in Albany, Oregon. See Barb Callner's article on the front page for additional information.

There will be no April general meeting due to many members traveling to Peru and Chile in April. May's gathering will be Sunday, May 20 at 2 p.m., location to be determined. Save this date on your calendars!

MARCH BOARD MEETING *by Chris Duval*

In March, our board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 14th, at 1 p.m. at the main branch of the Albany Public Library, in one-half of the conference room on the main floor where we typically hold our monthly gatherings. The address is 2450 14th Ave SE. All members are welcome to attend. Please accept my apology for this mix-up in start times for the board meetings. In attempting to arrange meeting rooms, we vacillated between starting at 1 p.m. and starting at 2 p.m. We have settled on 1 p.m. for the board meetings, which usually will take place on the second Wednesday of the month.

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED *BY CHRIS DUBAL*

Our club has need for someone to come a bit early to each general meeting and prepare coffee and tea for us, as well as greet people as they come into our meetings, and ensure that they have nametags. Sue Stein has volunteered to do this when she is available, but she needs another person to back her up and assist. Is this YOU? Do you have the hospitality gift? Let Chris know by contacting her via phone or email.

Many hands make light work for our club. Thanks for your consideration.

FFI WESTERN REGIONAL SUPER CONFERENCE, MAY 2 – 5 2018

BY CHRIS DUVAL

FFI's Western Regional Super Conference will be held in Sacramento, California from May 3-5, 2018. The theme is: "Citizens of a Global Community". The keynote speaker will be Joy Justus from World Relief, Sacramento. Attendees from FFOMWV will include Chris Duval, Rita Powell, Ted Powell, John Francis, and Caye Poe. If any additional members want to join us, get in touch with Chris for details. This is going to be an information-packed conference, with lots of fun for all. Potential participants – contact Chris for more information..

FRIENDSHIP SHARED

by Van Nichols



Soup from a stone, imagine that!

Rita and Ted Powell initiated the Friendship Shared season with Soup from a Stone. Twelve guests contributed ingredients to the boiling pots, each with a magic stone. We made use of time needed to thoroughly blend all the flavors together by nibbling on delicious appetizers. Sliced apples were pared with gjetost Norwegian cheese in a purple wrapper (I picked up some gjetost cheese in a blue wrapper that is not as good). Crackers were served up with Neufchatel and My Momma's Hot Pepper Jelly (made in Albany). We had to be careful not to fill up on the delicious appetizers before the soup gained all the flavor from the stone! Soup was served up with delicious bread. We all sat down around one long table. The great taste of the soup was exclaimed around the room. Conversation died, bread was dipped, and delicious soup made its way to our mouths. The room came back to life and conversation continued after a decent interval. Wait, there is still dessert. Out came lemon cake and lemon sorbet.

Thank you, Rita and Ted, for sponsoring another great **Friendship Shared** event.

Events coming up with space available:

Nowruz Brunch with Kathy Butler and Marilyn Peterson, Saturday March 24th at 11 AM.

Brunch with Ruth and John Wyse, Saturday March 31st at 11 AM.

Eileen Minette, Saturday April 7th at 5 PM.

Contact Van Nichols to make reservations.

STONE SOUP IS AN OLD FOLK STORY

submitted by Rita Powell

Hungry strangers convinced the people of a town to each share a small amount of their food in order to make a meal that everyone enjoys. (In varying traditions, the stone has been replaced with other common inedible objects, and therefore the fable is also known as axe soup, button soup, nail soup, and wood soup.)



Some travelers come to a village, carrying nothing more than an empty cooking pot. Upon their arrival, the villagers are unwilling to share any of their food stores with the hungry travelers. Then the travelers go to a stream and fill the pot with water, drop a large stone in it, and place it over a fire. One of the villagers becomes curious and asks what they are doing. The travelers answer that they are making "stone soup", which tastes wonderful and which they would be delighted to share with the villager, although it still needs a little bit of garnish, which they are missing, to improve the flavor. The villager, who anticipates enjoying a share of the soup, does not mind parting with a few carrots, so these are added to the soup. Another villager walks by, inquiring about the pot, and the travelers again mention their stone soup which has not yet reached its full potential. The villager hands them a little bit of seasoning. More and more villagers walk by, each adding another ingredient. Finally, the stone (being inedible) is removed from the pot, and a delicious and nourishing pot of soup is enjoyed by travelers and villagers alike. Although the travelers have thus tricked the villagers into sharing their food with them, they have successfully transformed it into a tasty and nutritious meal which they share with the donors.

Our guests were asked to each bring something to put in the pot this past weekend. In addition to an edible item, Patsy Byers also brought two stones!

To learn more about other traditions go to: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stone_Soup.

APPLICATION FOR NEW OR RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP

Please complete one form for each member. Annual dues cover the cost of the monthly newsletter and expenses for Journeys and activities of the Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley, as well as membership in Friendship Force International, which provides discounted prices on Journey travel and other benefits. Memberships expire on December 31, each year. Please PRINT clearly.

Annual dues: Individual: \$30.00

This is a NEW _____ or RENEWAL _____ application.

Name: _____ (one person per form, please)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Mail to: Friendship Force, P.O. Box 1703, Albany, OR 97321

CHANGES ARE COMING - to Friendship Connections and to Club's Website

By Marilyn Peterson

For years we have posted the 6 most recent newsletters (Friendship Connections) on our website. The version posted on the website is the same one you receive in your inbox as a club member, but that will change. Effective with the March newsletter the version on our website will not contain members' personal information such as email address, phone number and home address. Neither will the web version show the list of officers and committee heads. The version that you receive by email will contain complete information, and you will continue to receive updated club rosters.

If you are wondering why this change has been made, the change is about being safe on the internet. FFI no longer puts staff direct emails on the FFI website for the same reason. Recently two of our club officers were the attempted victims of "social engineering" based on information likely gathered from our website newsletter copies. Using information gathered from the newsletter (officer email and titles), the perpetrator asked for a check to be sent to pay a "vendor". No money was sent, but the board has decided that it is time to protect more carefully the personal information of our club members.

To make this transition the web version of the newsletter will no longer contain the box with officer and committee information. In addition all articles in the newsletter will list only names as contacts without phone, email or home address. Please help with the transition by putting only names in your articles for the newsletter.

For example:

Currently the meeting announcement would look like:

Join us on April 19 at Suzie Q's home, 123 Main Street, Sometown. Please RSVP by calling her at (111) 123-1234 or emailing her at heremail@somehost.com

Beginning in March the changed article:

Join us on April 19 at Suzie Q's home. Please let her know by phone or email of your plans to attend. Her information is on the current roster.

Thanks for your understanding about these changes. If you have questions, ask any board member or Marilyn Peterson .

FFOMMWV Board Minutes -- January 8, 2018

Present: Members John Wolcott, Marilyn Peterson, Gail Wolcott, Pat Byers, Chris Duval, Eileen Minette, Rita Powell, Dennis Murphy and Mary Ellen Lind, Immediate past secretary, Nancye Ballard was also present to take notes in place of new secretary Sharon Harr.

President Chris Duval opened the meeting at 2:02 p.m. Chris proposed deleting some sensitive text in the minutes of the November 9, 2017 board meeting. After discussion, **MSP (Eileen, Mary Ellen)** that the minutes be approved as amended.

In the absence of Van Nichols, Chris discussed the Treasurer's report. FFOMWV's operating expenditures exceeded our budget by \$231, the result of our having purchased a much needed projector and microphone.

Journey Coordinators' reports:

Dennis reported on the Peru-Chili Journey scheduled for April. Because arrangements with the Santiago Club have not been finalized yet, our club may take a tour of Machu Picchu in lieu of visiting Chile.

Marilyn said that she and Kathy Butler would develop a budget for the North Carolina inbound journey this week. She discussed the itinerary and commented that not enough host applications have been received. At least 17 ambassadors will visit us, though she hopes for 20.

Brazil incoming. No report because neither JC (Van or Ted) is present. Scheduled for second week of September.

Pat confirmed that no domestic outbound journeys have been scheduled for 2018. There was discussion about which clubs might be approached to host us. Rita, who is taking over Journey Organizer for Pat, will explore various possibilities.

Chris said Van, who has accepted the position as Journey Treasurer, will report next month. Eileen, new vice president, has agreed to assume the membership position. Several other members will assist her in this endeavor. Marilyn will fill the new position of Internet Communication, or, as Chris put it, "webbie kinds of things." Incoming newsletter editor Mary Ellen Lind confirmed that the deadline for copy to be submitted remains the 25th of each month.

Old Business:

The official changeover of officers at Umpqua Bank is in process. Chris thinks that the secretary and treasurer are the logical people to keep the key to the PO Box. In this case, though, the holders of these two officers are a married couple. Does it really make sense for both keys to reside in the same household? She will talk to other board members about allowing one of them to keep a key as a backup.

New business:

Chris read the names of the 2018 appointed chairpersons: Newsletter- Mary Ellen Lind; Membership – Eileen Minette; Journey Organizer – Rita Powell; Journey Treasurer – Van Nichols; Internet Communications – Marilyn Peterson; Membership Outreach - John Francis & Caye Poe; Navigators – Barb Callner; Inventory & Merchandise – Rita Powell; Sunshine – Sue Stein; Historian – Russ Karrow; Archivist – Ann Sickles; Friendship Shared – Van Nichols and Meet, Eat & Get Acquainted – Jane Rakoncray. **MSP (Pat, Nancye)** that we accept these people as officers.

Ted Powell will audit the accounts in the near future and report on his findings.

Chris noted that she plans to attend the Western Regional Super Conference in Sacramento May 3 – 5. She is considering taking the train and would love for one of our members to join her as a roommate in Sacramento. Ted and Rita will also attend, but they plan to drive. The budget once we've seen and passed it, will contain some support for Chris, as president, to attend this event.

The FF club in Olympia has invited NW clubs to join them in April or May, 2019 for a social gathering that would last three or four days. Chris thinks this event would be worth attending, and she'll keep in touch with the Olympia leaders.

Marilyn confirmed that, because of the extensive damage caused by Hurricane Maria, the international conference initially scheduled for 2019 in Puerto Rico will have to be held elsewhere.

Membership meetings: Don Rea will conduct the installation of new officers Jan. 23 in the Albany Library. Eileen will coordinate the coffee/tea. The Wolcotts will present a program on the outbound journey to Georgia that took place last fall.

For the February membership meeting, Chris is seeking a speaker who can inform members about Peru. Rita will assemble relevant cultural information.

Chris hopes that in March we can have a breakfast scramble instead of a general membership meeting. Discussion took place about when and where to schedule this event. Because several members will be in South America during April, the membership meeting that month will not take place.

Discussion about day and time for 2018 board meetings. The second Wednesday in the afternoon seems to be a possibility.

Chris mentioned that she had spotted the annual calendars that the club had completed in the past. She put one together that reflects what FF expects of us and when. She had also written job descriptions for each officer

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Nancye Ballard

REPORT OF THE 2017 AUDITOR *BY TED POWELL*

I have audited the General Account and the Exchange Account for the year 2017 and all looks to be both satisfactory and compliant. I commend Van Nichols and Peter Harr on their individual diligence in maintaining records. Both sets of books were in good order. Van will furnish a record of the club's Certificate of Deposit, not shown in the working checking accounts. As a club we are fortunate to have members willing to do the jobs required of officers, I personally thank all Board Members past and present for your gift of time and talent. Please know that often there is no praise but the job still is required and we the Membership, who benefit, are in your debt. On behalf of our Members, look at a Board Member near you and give them a pat on the back, well done!

**Deadline for April issue of
Friendship Connections is March 25.
Send copy to *Mary Ellen Lind*. Her
email address is listed in the
membership roster.
THANKS!**