

## A Journey Completed

*By Dennis Murphy*



Our journey to Santiago, Chile began in the Spring of 2017 when FFI gave our club two outbound international journeys. One was to the Friendship Force of Nor Peru and the other to the Friendship Force of Santiago, Chile.

In early April 2018, 21 ambassadors began their journey to Lima, Peru where we stayed for a few days and were escorted around that magnificent city by members of the Friendship Force of Lima Club. We then flew to Trujillo, in Northern Peru to spend a week with the Nor Peru FF Club. Once again, the places we visited and the festive events that we participated in were wonderful. Following that, a smaller group of us flew to Cusco then spent two days in Machu Picchu. Six of us were planning to fly back to Lima then on Santiago, Chile to meet their FF club. Instead of landing in Lima we were diverted to Pucallpa airport in the Amazon jungle where we sat on the runway for several hours then flew into Lima where planes were grounded by a Latam Airline strike. Upon our travel agent's advice, and in a state of pure exhaustion, frustration and bewilderment, we decided to cancel our journey to Santiago and to fly home the following day.

The Journey Coordinator for the Santiago Friendship Force Club was Alicia Silva Hennings who was very dedicated to preparing a successful journey including a big welcome for our seven ambassadors. When informed that we could not make it from Lima, she and the club members were shocked and very disappointed. A sense of failure and disappointment lingered with both our clubs in the days and months following our return home.

In the summer of 2018, Mary Ellen and I, and Rod and Raylene Sell, became aware of the Friendship Force Festival at Sea cruise to take place in February of 2019. We learned that the cruise began in Buenos Aires and ended in San Antonio, Chile, the port to Santiago. Would there be a chance that our Friendship Force Hosts in Santiago would like to get together with us and complete the journey that had begun in April of 2018?

We contacted Alica Hennings and Victoria Montecinos to inform them that we would be in Santiago and asked if they would like to meet and share some time together. We immediately received responses of excitement and invitations to stay in their homes. We found that through our previous correspondence, bonds of friendship had already been formed by our mutual experiences of disappointment in our first attempt to visit. We anticipated that this time we would finally meet and complete a journey that began almost a year earlier!

Our March, 2019 visit and tour in the city of Santiago, the Andes mountains, and the Chilean shores of the Pacific Ocean will be described by Dennis in a future article located on our club's website. Please continue reading online about this fascinating journey at [www.fforegon.org](http://www.fforegon.org).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**April 10, Wednesday, 1 p.m.**

**FFOVV Board Meeting**

Albany Public Library Conference Rm.  
2450 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., SE.

**April 15, Monday, 11:30 a.m.**

**MEG – Meet, Eat, Get Acquainted**

**Luncheon** Cascade Grill  
110 Opal Ct., NE. Albany

**April 28, Sunday, 2 p.m.**

**General Meeting**

Albany Public Library, Large Conf. Rm.  
2450 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., SE.  
Program to be announced.

**After program, NZ Workshop**

**Sunshine News**

Contact Sue Stein with news.



friendship force  
INTERNATIONAL

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by CHRIS DUVAL*

Friends:

Our 2019 journey schedule is looking to be busy and fun, with an upcoming journey to Montana scheduled for May 9-15, with two seats left. Ted Powell and Pat Byers are working on plans for our incoming ambassadors from Edmonton in June. Additionally, in June, we will have a booth at the World Beat Festival in Salem, June 29 & 30, and will need booth planners and staffers (see Chris Duval if this appeals to you). Then a number of our members are heading out to Boulder, Colorado, for the FFI World Conference in July. John Wolcott and Mary Ellen Lind are the Journey Coordinators for our inbound Atlanta, Georgia group, coming in August, and it appears that they have a robust schedule of interesting events in which all our members may want to participate. Wrapping up our year, we have a nearly full group of ambassadors traveling to New Zealand in October.

There will be many opportunities to volunteer to assist with these journeys. Thank you in advance for stepping up to day host, overnight host, small dinner host, plan activities, assist with driving, and generally support our Journey Coordinators as they provide leadership for our groups.

In between all of our journeys and conferences, we are planning to extend Friendship Shared under the capable leadership of Shirley Karstens. Let Shirley know if you want to host an event, and please sign up for the events hosted by others. The proceeds of Friendship Shared in 2019 will be going to charities of the attendees' choice. This is one way we ensure we are giving service to others through our membership in Friendship Force.

In friendship,

*Chris*

### ***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.

# 2019 JOURNEY INFORMATION

## Outbound to Missoula, Montana, May 9 – 15

**BY RITA POWELL**

Folks, our first journey of the year will be to Missoula, Montana. If you have not already signed up, please do so. Two of our members needed to drop out - so there are still spaces available! Contact Eileen Minette or me, Rita Powell, right away.

The following information came from the host club Journey Coordinator, Michael Flanagan:

We are planning a Welcome dinner at about 6 pm on May 9 and a visit to our Ft. Missoula Museum the morning of May 15 and then a lunch which should be over by 2:30 pm. Because of travel via auto or air, almost all the hosts will be flexible on the arrival and departure dates and times. Do you have any idea how many might drive? Who might want to arrive early? Who might want to stay until May 16 or have a flight departure time for which finishing lunch at 2:30 pm might be a problem? (It is about 30 min from the lunch site to the airport).

Our plans include: Bike riding, Bison Range, Fort Missoula, and the Smoke Jumper Base.

Regarding those people who might like to do a bicycle tour, we might do two different groups depending on the diversity of ability and number of people.

In Friendship, Michael

As you can see, the Missoula group is going to be very flexible regarding our arrival and departure times. So, we will all be accommodated! The events sound interesting, don't you think? Please contact Eileen Minette or me at if you have more questions. We'll have the cost very soon!

## Inbound from Edmonton, Alberta, June 16 – 22

**BY TED POWELL**

Canucks are coming June 16-22, eh', true!

Pat Byers and I will be JCs for a lively group of Edmonton Canadians and we need you as hosts and committee people! Queue up and email Pat or me put on your runners we are getting started! How much do you know about our neighbors to the north? Let's test:

National anthem of Canada is:

- a. Land of Lakes and the Free
- b. Oh Canada
- c. Two Toots on the Airhorn and a Puck Drops

Hudson ay Company established Edmonton in:

- a. 1745
- b. 1795
- c. 1825

Edmonton is one of the three sunniest cities in Canada, which other is not:

- a. Calgary
- b. Toronto
- c. Winnipeg

The US Dollar is a " buck", what do Canadians call theirs?

- a. Wampum
- b. Loonie
- c. Biscuit

Edmonton's home hockey team is:

- a. Wildcats
- b. Oilers
- c. Raptors

Edmonton is in which Province?

- a. Saskatchewan
- b. Alberta
- c. British Columbia

Distance Edmonton to Salem?

- a. 800 miles
- b. 1000 miles
- c. 1200 miles

West Edmonton Mall is still the largest in North America at:

- a. 22 city blocks
- b. 48 city blocks
- c. 104 city blocks

The correct answer was always b. no kerfuffle today.

Looks like we need hosting for two couples and six single ladies at this early date, would you be able to help out? With many of our members moving to senior living, we do need your hosting! Day hosts are welcomed as well and matching/interviewing, welcome/farewell, activities/transportation or what you can offer as a committee person! Contact Patsy or Ted

BTW: They want to do an overnight at the coast and the Thyme Garden is booked as well, how about coming with us?

## **Inbound from Greater Atlanta, Georgia, August 13 – 19**

**BY MARY ELLEN LIND**

We plan to welcome 16 Atlanta ambassadors to our Willamette Valley. We need a couple more hosts and day hosts. We have a full schedule of activities, some that haven't been done before (or often), like a tour and a vegetarian lunch at Gathering Together Farms, observe a Siletz tribal pow wow celebration at the Grand Ronde, whale watching, vineyard visit and wine tasting, and (possibly) visit to a marijuana store and farm. Club members who don't plan to host are welcome to go on the whale watching excursion; the cost is \$42. Please let John Wolcott know if you can help with hosting and/or if you would like to join the whale watching event.

## **Outbound to New Zealand, October 12 – 27**

**BY MARILYN PETERSON**



The New Zealand Journey will begin in Auckland on October 12 and end Oct 27. The trip includes a week with the Whangarei club, followed by two nights in Rotorua (hotel) and a week with the New Plymouth club. There are approximately 2 seats remaining on this journey. We will be opening the journey to those outside our club who have expressed interest in early April if we do not fill these seats with our club members. Cost excluding insurance and airfare is approximately \$1710.

A workshop has been set for all ambassadors planning to go to New Zealand. It will be held following the gathering on Sunday, April 28, at approximately 3:30pm, at the Albany Public Library. If you are planning to go to NZ and cannot make it to the workshop, please let Chris Duval know in advance. .

## **MEG – MEET, EAT, GET ACQUAINTED LUNCHEON**

**By. JANE RAKONCZAY**

The next MEG luncheon will be on Monday, April 15th at 11:30 at the **Cascade Grill**, 110 Opal Ct. NE in Albany near I-5, and off Knox Butte road, close to the Fairgrounds.

Give Jane a call by Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 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

We hope to see you there!



# **SUMMARY OF JOURNEYS AND CONFERENCES** *BY RITA POWELL*

## **2019 Inbound**

June 16 - 22

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Brenda Kane – President and Acting Journey Chair

Host JC's: Ted Powell and Pat Byers

August 13 - 19

Greater Atlanta, Georgia

Ambassador JC: Judy Hausmann

Hosts JCs: John Wolcott and Mary Ellen Lind

## **2019 Outbound**

May 9 – 15 Missoula, Montana

14 Ambassadors

Host JC: Michael Flanagan

Ambassador JCs: Rita Powell and Eileen Minette

October 12 – 27

Whangarei and New Plymouth, New Zealand

20 ambassadors +

Host JC's: Peter Geange and Betty Tarrant

Ambassador JCs: Marilyn Peterson and Chris Duval

## **2019 International Conference**

July 23-26: Boulder, Colorado

## **2020 SuperRegional Conference**

For Western states

May 21 – 23, Portland

Mark your calendars now for a fun and informative conference.

## **2020 Outbound**

Manitoba, Canada

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

## **2020 Inbound**

Texas (possibly)





## **SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER, ARIA MINU-SEPEHR** *BY CHRIS DUVAL*

At our gathering on March 24, we were fortunate to have a guest speaker, Aria Minu-Sepehr, who shared a visual presentation and information regarding the culture of Iran. Aria was an engaging speaker who shared his experiences as a boy in Iran, as well as information about the history of Iran. We learned about the festival of Nowruz, and how it is celebrated by people from Iran, no matter where in the world they have settled. Aria also shared insight into the importance of Iran's position near the Strait of Hormuz, and helped us understand this volatile region.

Aria told us that he and his family sought refuge in the United States when he was of elementary school age, following the fall of the Shah of Iran in 1979 and the purges that targeted his family's class.

Aria is the author of a book, [We Heard the Heavens Then](#), which was awarded the John Guyon Literary Non-Fiction Prize. Aria lives with his family in Corvallis and is the director of Team Oregon, a program of the College of Public Health and Human Sciences at OSU. Thanks to Ruth Wyse for suggesting Aria as a speaker. The members who attended were fascinated by his humor and grace in describing the culture of Iran, both traditional and modern.



Aria Minu-Sepehr, our guest speaker, with (from left) Ruth Wyse, Don Rea, and Chris Duval

## **FRIENDSHIP SHARED** *BY SHIRLEY CARSTENS*

### **MEMORIES OF GOOD TIMES LAST YEAR!**



## **FRIENDSHIP SHARED, 2019**

### **LET FUN BEGIN AGAIN!**

Our Friendship Shared events for charity are about to begin! At this time two events are scheduled and there is room for many more. Be thinking of the event you will host from now until the end of the year. Will it be a game night and snacks, or a themed dinner, perhaps a BBQ, or go really big with a sleepover at your weekend home. There all sorts of possibilities and all will be fun and benefit those in need. Let me know details of your event, the date, and cost per person. I will check our schedule, provide information to the membership and register guests. Please contact me with your information and to reserve space at an event: Shirley Karstens

Scheduled events: **The Yucatan Table** hosted by Ted and Rita Powell June 1, 2019 at 1 PM. Cost is \$22 per person and they can take four more people. Ted says "A fusion of Mayan tastes and so different than you might expect! No, not 'hot' but flavors that you will not taste in other areas of Mexico! Yumm!"

Also scheduled is a **Poker Party** on April 26, 2019 at 6 PM. Beginner and intermediate players are welcome. Marla says "We enjoy playing with those who are just learning." Cost is \$15 per person and there is space for three more.

Spaces are going quickly so make your reservation soon. Contact Shirley (see above) to reserve your place for these events. .

### **NEW POLICY** *BY CHRIS DUVAL*

At the February board meeting, the board voted to adopt the Oregon Nonprofit Guidelines with regard to voting my email. The new policy is as follows:

Voting by Email:

The Board will vote on matters in person when possible. If a matter comes before the Board and needs to be voted on prior to the next Board meeting, voting may be by email under the following terms: Each and every Board member must consent in writing to the action via email or in writing. If any Board member disapproves or fails to respond, the action must wait until the Board can meet. If the action does pass by email consensus, then the email and written consents must be preserved in the records alongside the usual minutes.

### **2019 FESTIVAL AT SEA** *BY CHRIS DUVAL*

In February, seven of our members set sail on the FFI Festival at Sea cruise in South America. New member, Pam Riley, joined Dennis Murphy, Mary Ellen Lind, Rod Sell, Raylene Sell, Marilyn Peterson, and Chris Duval on this adventure. There were some rocky days at sea, but the scenery and wildlife were amazing. We got to know some of the 150 other FFI members on board and spent lots of time listening to our CEO, Jeremi Snook, share his vision of FFI's future. FFI Staff member Laura Romero kept us organized, and having fun with stories and skits. We also got to visit with several of the FFI board members who were along for the cruise and share ideas for membership growth and future journey concepts.

At our April gathering, there will be a presentation about the Festival at Sea to give you more information about this interesting journey. The next page provides a few photos to build eagerness to hear and see more about this action-filled voyage.



Marilyn and Chris on upper deck of ship



Cruising along Glacier Alley, Chile



Dennis and Mary Ellen in port at Montevideo, Uruguay



Chris leading the PEACE SONG at a Friendship Force gathering on board the ship.



Rod and Raylene Sell trekking on peat bogs and over the hills of Ushuaia, Argentina



# Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley Membership Application or Renewal

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 of each year.

Annual dues: Individual, \$30.00

Please print clearly:

This is a NEW \_\_\_\_\_ or RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ application.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (one person per form, please)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Members have opportunities to participate in some of the following activities: travel on international and domestic Journeys; host incoming Ambassadors overnight and participate in planned activities; day host Ambassadors; provide small group dinners; provide rides to non-driving members to meetings and events; enjoy lunches together; and serve in leadership roles. We invite you to become involved!

**Mail to: Friendship Force, P.O. Box 1703, Albany, OR 97322**



**Our mission is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people. Each individual can make a contribution to global goodwill. The Friendship Force worldwide network of clubs and individuals seeks to overcome differences among people and natio**

# FFOMWV Board Minutes

January 9, 2019

**Present:** Chris Duval, Peter Harr, Sharon Harr, Eileen Minette, Marilyn Peterson, Rita Powell, Gail Wolcott, John Wolcott

**Absent:** Kathy Butler, Mary Ellen Lind, Dennis Murphy, Van Nichols

President Chris Duval called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

December Board Minutes were reviewed and approved. (Eileen/Peter) **MSP**

**Treasurer's Report:** Checking Account reconciled through the end of December. Ending balance. CD Value. Peter noted that membership dues are still coming in. Determined that two outstanding checks representing journey donations that were not cashed, in the amounts of \$50 and \$150, from October 2017, will be written off.

**Membership Renewals Update:** In 2018, club had 65 members; to date, 37 members have renewed. Marilyn and Rita will send out emails, include the renewal form, and will emphasize that the current renewal rate is \$30 per person.

**Journey Treasurer Report:** No change from last month. John expressed interest to see the Journey Treasurer's report that includes separate entries for all journeys and with the ending balance for each journey. Chris will ask Van about this. The report will be filed for audit.

**Journey Coordinator Reports:** (Journeys in date order) Rita Powell

- ❖ 2019 Montana Inbound – May 9 – 16. JCs: Rita Powell and Eileen Minette. Four remaining spaces
- ❖ 2019 Edmonton Inbound – June 16 – 22. No JCs. No response from Edmonton Club related to previously expressed interest in going to the Rose Festival. Rita will follow up with them.
- ❖ World Conference in Boulder, Colorado – July 23 -27. Our club has several members attending who may travel together to this conference.
- ❖ 2019 Atlanta Inbound – August 13 – 21. JCs: John Wolcott and Mary Ellen Lind. We can host 20 people. John suggested that, if they don't have 20 people, he will encourage them not to recruit further. He has worked out with Portland FF Club to host the group for three days; Portland Club will arrange that.
- ❖ 2019 Fort Worth Inbound – September. No JCs; no correspondence from Ft. Worth Club. Rita will follow up.
- ❖ 2019 New Zealand with Outbound – Oct. 10 – 27. JCs: Marilyn Peterson & Chris Duval. There are 25 spaces and 22-23 people have expressed interest. Planning is underway.

**Committee Chairperson Reports:**

- ❖ **Internet Communication:** Marilyn Peterson  
Southern Oregon and Columbia Cascade are interested in collaboration with us on the FFOregon.org website. Shared cost to be \$60 per Club/year. She will continue to try to "legally re-register" this domain name. Marilyn indicated that she will include a map of the Western U.S. FF Clubs, with Oregon clubs featured.
- ❖ **Newsletter:** Mary Ellen is traveling so there is no current newsletter.

**Old Business:**

- ❖ Scheduling of 2019 Board Meetings will remain on the 2nd Wednesday; no changes.

**2019 Board Meeting and General Meeting Scheduling:**

- February Board Meeting to be Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>. A February Breakfast Scramble, Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m., at Elmer's, will be planned in lieu of a General Meeting.
- March: No Board Meeting. General Meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at Mennonite Village.
- April Board Meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup>. April Gathering location and date tentatively 4/28.
- May Board Meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup>. General Gathering on 5/19.
- June Board Meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup> pending Edmonton Inbound. No June Gathering due to Edmonton Inbound.
- July Board Meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup>. World Conference July 23-27<sup>th</sup>, Gathering on Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>.
- August: no Board meeting or Gathering due to Atlanta Inbound.

- September Board Meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Annual Meeting Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - October: New Zealand Outbound; no scheduled meetings.
  - November Board Meeting on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>; General Gathering Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - December Board Meeting on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>. Holiday party Sunday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m. Powell's have again graciously volunteered to have the event at their home.
- ❖ **Friendship Shared:** General discussion as to whether to put this on hiatus or possibly wait 6 months for more Friendship Shared offers. Club to decide on how to otherwise donate to a charity, e.g. adopt a family. Chris will talk with Van to ask if he needs help determining the direction we should go in at present regarding Friendship Shared arrangements.
  - ❖ **2019 FFI Awards:** Don and Elizabeth Rea to be nominated. Marilyn will convey this to Don. Chris will ask Mary Ellen to highlight Don's nomination in the newsletter with a photo and article; information to be provided by Marilyn and Rita.
  - ❖ **2019 Committee Chairpersons:** Gail Wolcott has graciously agreed to chair the MEG luncheons effective with the February luncheon. Thanks to Jane Rakoncay, who is retiring from this position.

#### **New Business:**

- ❖ **Audit of 2018 Financial Records:** John Wolcott will conduct the audit; Peter Harr to provide a PDF hard copy and other pertinent materials to John. John will also audit our Journey Treasury records.
- ❖ **Proposed Budget for 2019:** This will anticipate increases, e.g. \$60/yr. for the website; increase to \$150 for each Journey (new policy) for gift to other participating club; \$500 to members attending the World Conference (member must report afterwards). Proposed Budget to also reflect impact of decreased membership. Peter will draft the proposed 2019 budget and forward it to board members for review prior to the February board meeting.
- ❖ **Slate of Officers** needs to be developed for 2020. We need to be thinking of candidates.

#### **Upcoming Meetings:**

- ❖ **January Gathering & Installation of Officers:** Sunday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>, Albany Public Library.  
Program: Global and Fill-the-Seat Journeys – Chris Duval. Marilyn to send email reminder.
- ❖ **February Board Meeting:** Wednesday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>, at Albany Public Library.
- ❖ **February Gathering Meeting:** Breakfast Scramble, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. Louise Claassen will lead this event, with Eileen's assistance.
- ❖ **March:** No Board Meeting due to board members on Festival at Sea cruise.
- ❖ **March General Meeting:** Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> (a week later than usual), at Mennonite Village.

#### **Meeting Adjourned: 2:27 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Sharon Harr

## **FFOMWV Board Minutes**

February 13, 2019

**Present:** Chris Duval, Mary Ellen Lind, Eileen Minette, Dennis Murphy, Marilyn Peterson, Gail Wolcott, John Wolcott. **Absent:** Van Nichols, Peter Harr, Sharon Harr, Rita Powell

President Chris Duval called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.

January Board Minutes were reviewed and approved as corrected. (John/Mary Ellen) MSP

No Club Treasurer's report.

Journey Treasurer's Report was presented and will be filed for year-end audit.

Discussion on having the March Board Meeting before the General Meeting at the Mennonite Village on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Eileen will check with Louise on availability of the meeting room.

Discussion on new budget needing to reflect diminished membership. We will adopt a 2019 budget at our next board meeting.

Discussion on Membership Renewals and what can be done to increase number of members. Follow up action will be discussed at March Board Meeting.

### **Journey and Conference Reports:**

John Wolcott reported that all journeys need to have numbers assigned, number of nights and number of people reported to determine how much will be paid to FFI

**Montana:** Eileen reported that the Journey is full..

**Edmonton** In-bound needs Pat Byers' application for Co-JC approved. We will do this at the March board meeting.

**World Conference** in July, in Boulder, Colorado, has five members from our club attending.

**Atlanta:** John reported on progress. Discussion held on fee for hosts. JC will determine amount used for activities.

**New Zealand:** Marilyn reported the cost excluding airfare and insurance will be \$1700.00. There are 12 signed up so far. We have 20 spaces.

### **Committee Chair Reports:**

**Website:** Marilyn reported she has obtained the domain for Friendship Force Oregon website.

The domain is registered for 2 years. The web page will include 3 clubs from Oregon. Representatives of the 3 Oregon clubs will have a meeting in the future to plan the page.

Kay Macpherson will cover for Marilyn for the next 6 weeks for any emails that need to be sent out.

**Newsletter:** Mary Ellen reported the next issue will be sent out in April. Deadline for articles is March 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Old Business:**

**Friendship Shared:** A new chairperson is needed. Chris will make calls to find someone willing to take on the position. It was decided there will be no time limits and it will be annual rather than seasonal.

### **New Business:**

**Financial Records audit:** John Wolcott reported there were no issues or problems found with the 2018 financial records. John will audit the Journey account when he receives the records.

**2019 World Beat Festival booth:** June 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>

The club will rent a booth and have displays from journeys, handouts and other information to explain our mission. Chris will take care of enrollment and payment of fees for the Festival. (Marilyn/Eileen) MSP

### **Policy for Voting by Email**

The Board discussed the Policy for Voting by Email Guidelines as set up by the Oregon Nonprofit. It was decided that it will be used sparingly.

Board Voting by Email Policy per Oregon Nonprofit Guidelines –

When can we vote by email? Unless prohibited by your organization's articles or bylaws, Oregon law allows for board action without a meeting if each and every board member consent in writing to the action, email included. If any board member disapproves or fails to respond, the action must wait until the board can meet. If the action does pass by email consensus, then the email consents should be preserved in your records alongside your usual minutes. Further assurance would include having each board member sign the printed emails.

### **February Gathering**

The Breakfast Scramble will be held on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am with 8 people signed up so far. Marilyn will send out an email reminding people of the event. Eileen will contact Louise about using the Mennonite Village facility for the Board meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

**March Gathering.** Ruth Wyse's friend Aria will give a program on Iran for the March gathering at Mennonite village.

**April Gathering.** The club members that are participating in the Festival at Sea will give the April 28<sup>th</sup> program.

Meeting adjourned at 3:04 pm

Submitted by Eileen Minette, Vice President

**Our club is on Facebook!**

**Please "Like" us at the Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valle**





**Netiquette tip of the month** - when responding to a group email, do not use “reply all” unless it is necessary for all of the recipients to see your response. If you are planning a potluck and everyone should know what you are bringing, reply all. If you are acknowledging receipt by saying “thanks” or “got it” or RSVPing, do not reply all.

***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](mailto:fforegon@comcast.net) or PO Box 1703, Albany, Oregon 97321***

Note from Editor, Mary Ellen Lind: Please submit information for the May issue of Friendship Connections by April 25 to me. Thank you for your participation in writing and sending copy to me!