



friendship force
OREGON'S
MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Friendship Connections

The Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley , December, 2019

FF HOLIDAY PARTY POTLUCK

Sunday, December 22, 2019 2-4 pm

Powells' 2550 Stiles RD, Dallas, OR

Are you coming?

If so, please contact Eileen Minette:

Please let us know what you plan to bring: appetizer, salad, soup, side dish or dessert. The club will furnish a spiral-cut ham and Powells will provide beverages.

Also! Bring a white elephant gift of \$10 or so for exchange.*

* **From Wikipedia:** A white elephant gift exchange, Yankee Swap or Dirty Santa, is a party game where amusing, impractical gifts are exchanged during festivities. Usually, the goal of a white elephant gift exchange is to entertain party-goers rather than to gain a genuinely valuable or highly sought-after item.

Smile!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 18, Wednesday, 1 p.m.
FFOMWV Board Meeting
Albany Public Library Conference Rm

December 22, Holiday Gathering, 2 p.m.
Home of Ted and Rita Powell

Sunshine News

Contact Sue Stein, with news.



friendship force
INTERNATIONAL

Experience different views.
Discover common ground.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Friends:

Well, at last we come to my final President's Message. The two years of my tenure have flown by. I have learned so much from all of you. There are no words to express how appreciative I am for your support as I muddled through leading board meetings, gatherings, and welcoming visitors to our club. It has been quite the learning experience. After two years, I think I can create a board meeting agenda in my sleep! I have written a boat-load of articles for the newsletter! Of course, I had the able assistance of Eileen, Sharon, Peter, and the other members of the board. My most sincere thanks to all of them. I particularly leaned on Rita and Marilyn as my mentors, and they helped so much.

One thought I want to leave with you is my conviction that FFOMWV is a great group of people who truly care about others and meeting the FFI mission. There is not one meeting that I did not enthusiastically look forward to attending. I love seeing and talking with each of you. I like it that you bring snacks to our meetings and are friendly with each other and with newcomers. I like that you help plan activities for inbound journeys, and sign up as hosts, and go to Friendship Shared events, and Moon Fall, and cook up wonderful small group dinners. At a time when some FFI clubs are dwindling and even disbanding, I hope and pray that we continue to spread the FFI mission through our word of mouth, encouraging others to join us, so that our club remains vibrant.

It has been an honor to serve as your president.

In Friendship,

Chris Duval

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 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

UPCOMING JOURNEYS and CONFERENCES

In Date Order:

2020 May 21-23	Super Regional Conference in Portland, Oregon
June 2-8	Inbound Tokyo, Japan, #20317 Host JCs: Marilyn Peterson and Eileen Minette
June 20-27	Outbound Manitoba, Canada, #20151 Need Ambassador JCs
Mid-July to Mid-Aug,	TBD Inbound Denver, Colorado Need Host JCs
September 8-15	Inbound from North Bay, Ontario, Canada, #20326 Need Host JCs
Sep 27 – Oct 12	FFI Festival at Sea – Alaska, Japan
2021 August, TBD	Tentative Inbound from Ft. Worth, coordinated with their journey to Southern Oregon club
TBD	Tentative Outbound to Edmonton, Canada

INFORMATION ABOUT TOKYO, JAPAN, INBOUND

BY MARILYN PETETSON



The Friendship Force of Tokyo, Japan will visit our club June 2 - 8, 2020. At this point we do not program for their visit. We need to help the Ambassador Coordinator recruit by describing our program. The program information is also necessary for the Health and Mobility Form that we send to the visiting club so they know what level of activity to expect.

Please contact Marilyn or Eileen if you'd like to help with this journey. We need hosts (overnight, day and dinner hosts) as well as folks to help plan and arrange the program.

Thank you in advance for offering to help.

FRIENDSHIP FORCE is on Facebook!

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



KIA ORA! OUR JOURNEY TO NEW ZEALAND!

October 12 – 27, 2019

BY CHRIS DUVAL

Our 2019 international outbound journey was to Whangarei and New Plymouth, New Zealand, from October 12-27. We had twenty ambassadors, including four from other states. Springtime in New Zealand was a bit wet at times, but lots of mild, sunny days too. There were many beautiful gardens to tour, a zany ride down a sand dune, and a bus ride on the sand just next to the incoming tide. We hiked in the snow, met cuddly lambs, and enjoyed local Maori culture. Our hosts were congenial and the food was exceptional.

Thanks to those who took part. Our outbound international journey in 2020 will be to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, June 20-27. Give some thought to joining us. The flights won't be so very long, as our New Zealand flights were!



MEETING NOTICES BY EILEEN MINETTE

DECEMBER BOARD MEETING Wednesday, December 18th, at 1pm, with the location TBA. All members are welcome to attend.

DECEMBER GATHERING Sunday, December 22nd, at 2pm at Ted and Rita Powell's home.



M E G = Meet, Eat and Get Acquainted BY SHARON HARR

Many thanks to Jane Rakoncay for doing such a great job as MEG organizer these past two years. Beginning in January, 2020, I, Sharon Harr, will be organizing the MEG lunches. As previous organizers have done, I plan to select from a variety of restaurants in the Willamette Valley and to provide participants with varied locations and menus for an enjoyable shared eating experience. Watch for further information in the New Year!

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

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

NEW FRIENDSHIP SHARED COORDINATORS BY CHRIS DUVAL

Thank you to Shirley Karstens, who provided leadership for our club's Friendship Shared program in 2019. Thanks also for the generosity of our hosts and participants.

For 2020, Sue Stein has stepped up to lead the Friendship Shared program, along with Van Nichols. Sue will recruit hosts and sign-up participants. She will also provide articles and photos for the newsletter to inform members of Friendship Shared activities. Van will collect the money from participants and send our donations to the charities. This sounds like great teamwork!

So, put your thinking caps on about how you might host or co-host a Friendship Shared event in the upcoming months, and let Sue Stein know. Note: Sue will be traveling for about a month, so please send a copy of your email to Chris Duval who will start getting the ball rolling until Sue returns. Bonus points for the most creative events!



Dinner and Bunco game on May 24, 2019 at home of Louise Claassen.

2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS BY CHRIS DUVAL

It is time to renew your annual memberships. Yearly membership dues have increased for the year 2020, to \$35 per individual. Twenty dollars of this amount goes directly to FFI, to support their endeavors to organize our international journeys as well as conferences, the website, and recruitment. The balance of the funds remains with our local club, to support our activities.

The renewal membership form is on the following page. Complete the renewal form and send your check for \$35 to Peter Harr. It helps us greatly to receive your dues before January 1.

Thank you for your support of Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley.

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, \$35.00

Due for the New Year!

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



friendship force
OREGON'S
MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY

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 nations

FFOMWV Board Minutes

September 11, 2019

Present: Mary Ellen Lind, Dennis Murphy, John Wolcott, Gail Wolcott, Rita Powell, Marilyn Peterson, Chris Duval, Eileen Minette, Pat Byers

President, Chris Duval called the meeting to order at 1:06pm

Minutes from the August 7, 2019 meeting were approved as distributed. MSP (Rita Powell/John Wolcott) In the absence of Treasurer, Peter Harr, there was no operating account report.

Van Nichols submitted a report of the Journey account.

Atlanta Journey – JC John Wolcott reported that a number of Oregon Coast Aquarium tickets are available. They will be offer to the members for sale at the next club gathering.

Discussion on the costs of the Tuxtla-Gutierrez inbound MSP (Murphy/Minette) The costs to the hosts of the Tuxtla journey will be reviewed at the end of the journey for a potential reimbursement to the hosts.

Discussion of paying the small dinner hosts followed.

Rita Powell distributed the Journey Organizer report. Chris Duval added some additional information.

AI: Rita will put together a list showing all planned journeys for 2020 and beyond.

At the meeting on Sunday 15 a signup sheet for interest in an outbound to Oklahoma will be distributed. The capacity hosting document will be distributed to members prior to the Sept. 15 meeting to help guide 2021 club journey voting.

The next newsletter will be an October/November edition. Mary Ellen Lind wants to retire from publishing the newsletter in January.

Old Business:

Nominations Committee Report: Gail Wolcott will send the report for publication to the club prior to the Sept. 15 meeting.

Increase in club dues for 2020:

MSP (Lind/Byers) If members pay their dues by Dec. 1, the cost will be \$30. After that date, the price will rise to \$35.00 per year.

New Business:

Moonfall: only a few tickets have been sold. A reminder will be sent out via e-News and made at the Sept. 15 meeting.

No October Board or gathering due to the New Zealand outbound.

The new treasurer, if elected, will be using QuickBooks.

Brasov inbound October 2020: FFI has asked if we have an interest in hosting Brasov. Chris will poll those who traveled to Romania with our club.

Announcements:

Board meeting, November 13, 1pm

Gathering – November 17, 2pm

Board meeting – December 18, 1 p.m.

Holiday gathering – December 22, 2pm at Ted and Rita Powells' home

Meeting adjourned at 2:56pm

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Peterson
Secretary pro tempore

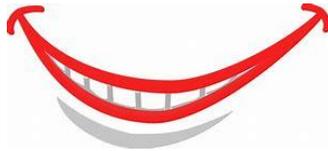
Note: abbreviations used:
AI – action item
MSP – Moved Seconded Passed

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED *BY MARY ELLEN LIND*

Over the past few years several of our current club members have served as editor of our monthly newsletter, Friendship Connections - Marilyn Peterson, Chris Duval and myself. As you know, the newsletter is key to informing members of upcoming activities and of describing recent events. Articles are written and photographs are taken by board and other FFOMWV members who are involved in the activities and submitted to the editor for publication. The past editors have used the Microsoft Word software program to format and print the newsletter, so unless the editor chooses otherwise, he/she can continue the same way rather than learn a new software program. This position serves on the Board of Officers and attends the board meetings, so is aware of some of the content that will need to be included in the next newsletter.

If you will accept this responsibility, I, Mary Ellen, will orient and work together with you as long as is needed in the new year. If you are willing to do this task or if you have questions, contact our president, Chris Duval.

YOU are needed to be an information provider to our club members!



BOARD OF DIRECTORS - 2019