

JOURNEY TO MISSOULA, MONTANA

By Journey Coordinators: Rita Powell & Eileen Minette

Our time in Montana was so special! Some of the highlights were:



Seeing the carousel which inspired the Albany carousel.

And for some of us getting to ride on a dragon!

Going to the National Bison Range and seeing these amazing creatures up close!

Visiting Ninepipes Museum, which was a collection of local Indian photos and memorabilia. The narration was given by the man who had saved the various items and put them together. He knew many of the people about whom he spoke.

Learning about smokejumpers! Awesome, incredible! Who knew that these brave men and women even sewed their own outfits and made the pieces of equipment!?

Spending time at the location where range horses and mules wintered over. They are used to carry materials into the wildlife areas where motorized vehicles are not allowed. How did we think all the trails were created and graveled??

Hearing about the Fort Missoula Alien Detention Center and the circumstances surrounding the people who were housed there.



Then, of course, there were all the wonderful hosts, day-hosts, dinner hosts and accompanying new members who found out first-hand what it means to be hosted on a Friendship Force Journey. Two of our new members also experienced the pleasure of connecting with the Missoula club.

Don't waste any time thinking about whether YOU will participate in our next inbound or outbound journey. We couldn't have had a warmer reception. I think all the Ambassadors would agree that the Missoula club made us feel warmly welcomed.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

We will not have MEG luncheons scheduled over the summer months.

No general gathering in June due to Edmonton inbound journey.

June 12, 1 p.m. Wednesday
FFOMWV Board Meeting
Albany Public Library
2540 14th St. SE.

Inbound Edmonton Journey
June 16, 3:30 p.m Welcome potluck
Ted and Rita Powell's home
2550 Stiles Rd., Dallas
June 21, 5 p.m. Farewell dinner
Sybaris Bistro, 422 1st Ave, Albany
Non-hosts: contact Ted Powell if
wanting to attend either event.

Sunshine News
Contact Sue Stein with
news.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by CHRIS DUVAL*

Friends:

It is time to begin thinking about filling our officer positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer for 2020. Our election will be in September at our Annual Meeting. The Board of Directors is currently seeking a team of three former officers to serve as our nominating committee.

The duties of each position, are as follows: President – leads the monthly gatherings and chairs the Board of Directors; sets annual goals, appoints committee chairpersons, and attends regional and world conferences; contributes to the monthly newsletter to keep our members informed. Vice President – leads in the absence of the President; chairs membership activities, plans programs for our gatherings and reserves room spaces for our activities; plans special events and writes articles for the newsletter on upcoming meetings. Secretary – takes minutes at board and annual meetings; handles written communications on behalf of the board. Treasurer – keeps accurate financial records for the club; orders name tags for new members; works closely with the Journey Treasurer; maintains our membership list.

The four persons holding these offices are the primary leaders of our club. It is important that we have members willing to step up and serve. If you have questions about what is involved in serving as an officer, please contact the current officers who are all willing to tell you what they have been doing for the last year and club members.

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.

INTRODUCING New Member, Pam Riley WELCOME!



Pam writes: After being involved with Columbia-Cascade FF for a couple of years, I sold my floating home on the Columbia river and found a little fixer upper in cozy McMinnville. For 30 years I taught middle school art in the Gresham- Barlow School district. I've been single since my husband passed in 2001. We have a son who is passionate about all types of music and is making his way through his 20's. Like most of you, I have many interests and am game to learn more about things as they present themselves. Health is an area that I strive toward.... it's always tentative at this juncture. Looking forward to meeting my new friends at Mid-Willamette valley functions in the near future.

2019 JOURNEY INFORMATION

Inbound from Edmonton, Alberta, June 16 – 22

BY TED POWELL

The Welcome Potluck for Edmonton will be Sunday June 16th, starting at 3 p.m. for happy hour, at Powell's 2550 Stiles Rd, Dallas. Let Rita know what food item you will bring as it is a potluck. Ted will supply beverages with and without alcohol.

We have a week of activities and the promise of making new friends. Next year we are assigned Manitoba and quite possibly we will visit Edmonton either coming or going. Our week of activities ends on Saturday the 22nd and some will see more of Portland, some will jet home and a few more will drive home. Our goal is that all will have good memories of Oregon! Ted Powell and Pat Byers, Journey Coordinators

Inbound from Greater Atlanta, Georgia, August 13 – 19

BY John Wolcott

The Atlanta club visit for August 13-19 is on track. We are currently matching guests and hosts. We need two people to day host for Friday, the 16th, when we will be taking guests to Newport for the day. There we will take a two-hour boat trip for a whale watching event, starting at 11:30AM. The normal cost for this is \$42 per person, but club funds will be supplementing \$20 of hosts. Contact John at if you want to help with day hosting. John Wolcott and Mary Ellen Lind, Journey Coordinators

Outbound to New Zealand, October 12 – 27

BY CHRIS DUVAL

The New Zealand Journey will begin in Auckland on October 12 and ends on 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.



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

September 23 – 28

Tuxtla, Mexico

Host JC's: Rita Powell and Juanita Weigel

2019 Outbound

October 12 – 27

Whangarei and New Plymouth, New Zealand

Host JC's: Peter Geange and Betty Tarrant

Ambassador JCs: Marilyn Peterson and Chris Duval

2019 World Conference

July 23-26: Boulder, Colorado

2020 SuperRegional Conference

For Western states

May 21 – 23, Portland

2020 Outbound

Manitoba, Canada

FRIENDSHIP SHARED - what is it? *BY SHIRLEY KARSTENS*

Friendship Shared is a series of parties we have for ourselves and our friends. These events raise money that we donate to charities. This is the opportunity for members to become better acquainted and support those in need. Each event host decides on the price to attend.

The next event will be “**The Yucatán Table**” hosted by Ted and Rita Powell at their home June 1 at 1 PM. July 13 at 4 PM Don Rea, Kathy Butler and Marilyn Peterson will host “**Wii Bowling and Pizza**” at Lakeside Center at the Mennonite Village. Other events are scheduled for August and September. To sign up to attend or if you have questions. Contact Shirley Karstens.

FRIENDSHIP SHARED HAPPENINGS

Poker Party! *By Van Nichols*

Russ and Marla Karow opened their door and invited in a group of novice poker players on April 26. We were treated to a table full of delicious “appetizers” including asparagus wrapped in pastry, small beef and smoked turkey sandwiches, vegetable and fruit platter along with cheese and crackers. It is a good thing that I didn’t eat dinner before coming to the party. Instead of flowers, poker chips and cards were the center piece of the table.



We ate our fill then Russ divided up the poker chips and handed out slips of paper indicating the rank of poker hands from high card to royal flush. Each player received three stacks of chips (at no cost). The chips indicated values of \$5, \$10 and \$25. However, they were reduced to 5, 10 and 25 cents to be less intimidating for us novice players. Five card draw was the game of choice.

The dealer put a 5-cent chip in the pot for each of the seven players before dealing out 5 cards to each of us. Bets were placed based on the quality of cards in one’s hand. We were a conservative bunch and a 5-cent chip was the normal bet. Even this small investment led 2 or 3 players to fold right away. Sometimes a brave person would raise the bid by 5 or 10 cents. The 25-cent chip never made it into the pot. Each player can turn in up to 3 cards and receive new cards to try and improve their hand once the bets have been placed. One more round of betting then cards are shown and the person with the high hand takes the pot (most frequently Russ). Free poker chips and low bets led to fun low stress poker playing.

Time flew by and Russ’ chip pile steadily grew until Marla called for a break. Marla served up brownies topped with ice cream. The other important item along with dessert involved selecting the charity to receive the proceeds from the event. Community Outreach in Corvallis received the most votes. The first Friendship Shared of the year ended with acclamations of gratitude from invited guests.

FRIENDSHIP SHARED - BUNCO! *BY CHRIS DUVAL*



On Friday, May 24, a number of FFFOMWV members and friends met at the home of Louise Claassen in Albany to enjoy a dinner and bunco game in support of charity. Louise provided the delicious dinner which concluded with fresh strawberries and ice cream as well as lemon pie. We had as much fun playing bunco as we did trying to figure out the various rules, but a winner did indeed emerge at the end - Jane Rakonczay - who was the bunco queen!

The money raised from this activity will be donated to Educare Africa, which is a non-profit organization with goals of improving living and learning conditions for the students and teachers in Cameroon, so that the students can successfully complete their education and then can help their country. In addition, they work to promote peace, cross-cultural understanding, love and unity of all people. Thanks to Louise for hosting!

LATIN AMERICAN RELIEF FUND *BY RITA POWELL AND CHRIS DUVAL*



At our monthly gathering on May 19, guest speakers were Sher and Gary Davidson, founders of the Latin American Relief Fund (LARF). LARF is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization registered in Portland Oregon, working to support the human rights and dignity of migrants and refugees fleeing violence and poverty in Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras), by assisting *Albergue* ABBA, a migrant shelter in Celaya, Guanajuato, Mexico. LARF provides the monthly rent, utilities and some funds for day-to-day operations to respond to emergency situations caused by variations in migrant flow, including large caravans.

The Albergue ABBA shelter offers to all migrants 3 days and nights' stay with meals in a safe environment, free calls home to their families, medical and psychological assistance, and information on applying for asylum when qualified. Most of the migrants have nothing but the clothes on their backs. Many of them have been robbed, beaten, or raped. They are fleeing the corruption, poverty, and rampant gang and cartel warfare in their own countries.

At this time, there is a fundraiser on line to purchase the property where LARF is currently paying the rent. If you are interested, go to: <https://latinamericanrelieffund.org/blog/f/new-years-greetings-2019?blogcategory=Capital+fund+raiser>

Thank you, Sher and Gary for the work you do to support human rights, and for giving us your time!

REPORT REGARDING PROMOTION OF FRIENDSHIP FORCE *BY JOHN FRANCIS*

The program, "Varieties of Travel", organized by John Francis and Caye Poe was held successfully in Dayton April 13, and our Friendship Force club was well featured in it.

Ted Powell gave a talk on the club's recent trip to Indonesia. This was the first time some of the audience had heard of Friendship Force. A Friendship Force membership form was included in a packet of information provided to every person attending the free program with 70 people attending. This was the fifth year of the program. It featured a new speaker every 15 minutes on some aspect of travel. Friendship Force is usually featured in at least one of the talks. Last year Chris Duval gave a talk specifically describing Friendship Force.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS SOUGHT

BY CHRIS DUVAL

Our By-Laws require that at least 8 weeks prior to the annual meeting, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee. This committee shall consist of at least 3 members. The duties of the committee shall be to make nominations, with the consent of those nominated, to publish the slate to the membership, and to report those at the annual meeting. At the annual meeting, the President shall receive from the floor further nominations (with the consent of the nominees), and the election shall be held at that time.

Our annual meeting this year will be held on Sunday, September 15. This means that we need a Nominating Committee in place by July 21.

If you would be interested in serving on this committee, please let Chris Duval know. It is a relatively easy and short-term way to get more involved in the club. I encourage experienced members, who may have served as officers, to consider being on the Nominating Committee. Thank you!

2019 WORLD BEAT FESTIVAL *BY CHRIS DUVAL*

FFOMWV will have a booth at the 2019 World Beat Festival in Salem, held at the Riverfront Park, Saturday and Sunday, June 29 and 30. This festival is a cultural celebration, which fits in well with the mission of FFI to break down barriers that divide people. The theme this year is "India".

Our booth will be 10 x 10, and will have our banner across the front. We have two tables and some chairs in the booth. We hope to have a video that shows photos from our recent journeys. We will also have FFI temporary tattoos to share with people who stop by the booth.

Our goal is to share FFI's mission and goals with others, and get more local people to become familiar with Friendship Force. Booth volunteers will work shifts in sets of two. Their job in the booth will be to talk to people who stop by and tell them about Friendship Force, and to offer to them a temporary tattoo of our logo and the words: Friendship Force. We will have business cards in the booth as well.

Since we have no gathering in June due to the Edmonton inbound journey, we need to have club members contact Chris Duval directly to sign up for shifts in the booth. We will send out a list of the shifts via email, after our work group meets in the next week or so. Hours of the festival are 10am-11pm on Saturday and 11am-7pm on Sunday. We hope you will put these dates on your calendar so you keep some time free for this event. Please join us in promoting the Friendship Force mission.





friendship force
INTERNATIONAL

FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL NEWS

HOMESTAY AUCTION FUND RAISER

BY CHRIS DUVAL

Experience different views.
Discover common ground.

For 2019, the Board has identified the translation of our website into six additional languages as one of our top priorities, making it easier for our current and potential members around the world to learn what we are about and participate in our mission.

Instead of simply identifying this as a fundraising priority, we wanted to find a fun way to bring in donations to fund these translations while also encouraging new friendships – an international homestay auction!

We are challenging each of our clubs to find at least one volunteer member to host a new friend for up to one week. The host commitment is to provide a bed and breakfast for up to one week with no obligation to provide additional meals, tours, or entertainment unless the host wants to provide these to their guests. **We need volunteers to fill out an on-line form by June 1, or as soon thereafter as possible.**

The host's information will be available on the online auction site: www.myminiauction.com/friendshipforce/ - but no names or contact information will be listed, only information about the home and homestay available.

Each homestay will begin with a minimum bid of \$100.00 USD, payable to FFI. Bidding will be open to all FFI members, and each bidder will be notified via email of their bid or if they are outbid. The host's name and contact information will only be shared with the winning bidder when the money for the homestay has been received by Friendship Force International. Winning bidders should be prepared to provide references and answer basic questions for the host as any member would if participating in a regular Friendship Force Journey.

Bidding will be open for approximately six weeks, beginning in the middle of June and closing at the end of July. After the auction, the host and winning bidder will be able to communicate about the logistics of the homestay, set to occur between August 15, 2019 and December 31, 2020. There will be no refund if the homestay is not used.

These homestay weeks made available through the auction could be used to: have a stopover on your way between two locations; extend a Friendship Force Journey for an additional week in a nearby location; enjoy and explore a new destination; visit a friend you have not seen for a while, or make a new friend!



Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness.

[Mark Twain](#) (1835-1910)

SUBMITTED BY MEMBER, CLIFF DEIGHAN

2020 FEE INCREASES *BY CHRIS DUVAL*

We have been notified by FFI that the member affiliation fee will increase to \$20 per individual as set by the Board of Directors. This is an increase of \$5 per member from what we have been most recently paying. The FFOMWV board of directors has discussed this increase and determined that in order to stay solvent, we need to pass this fee increase along to our members. Our current annual fees per person are \$30. **Effective with 2020 membership renewals, our annual fees will be \$35 per person, per year.**

In other fee news, **FFI has adjusted journey fees** as well. The chart below shows the current 2019 fees in the middle column, and in the right column, the 2020 fees that will be put into practice.

Journey Type	2019 FFI Fees (USD)	2020 FFI Fees (USD)
International Club-to-Club Journeys (5-7 nights)	\$165 per week for Journeys from the USA	\$170 per week for Journeys from the USA
	\$140 per week for Journeys from all other countries	\$150 per week for Journeys from all other countries
Domestic Club-to-Club Journeys (5-7 nights)	\$10 per night	\$15 per night
EU and Schengen Journeys	\$10 per night	\$15 per night
Stopover Journeys (1-4 nights)	\$20 per night	\$25 per night
Global Journeys	Fees vary	Fees vary

FRIENDSHIP FORCE is on Facebook!

Please “Like” us at the Friendship Force of Oregon’s Mid-Willamette Valle



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 nations.

FFOMWV Board Minutes

March 24, 2019

Present: Chris Duval, Peter Harr, Sharon Harr, Mary Ellen Lind, Eileen Minette, Rita Powell, Ted Powell, Ann Sickles, Gail Wolcott, John Wolcott
Absent: Van Nichols

President Chris Duval called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Review and Approval of Minutes: January Minutes were approved as corrected; Sharon will bring these up to date. (Eileen/Peter) **MSP**

February Minutes: Eileen to revise to include: "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. (Rita/Eileen) **MSP**

Treasurer's Report: Checking Account reconciled

Proposed 2019 Budget: Peter to correct budget estimate to reflect changes in number of memberships (2018 membership was 65; to date 2019, number is 49). 2019 Budget adopted with corrections to be made. (Eileen/Rita) **MSP**

Renewal of non-profit mailing: Peter to follow up on this; Rita's address is on this although she hasn't received it yet.

Membership Renewals Update: Rita sent letters to those who didn't renew (16) and **several of us** will follow up with a phone call. Peter to let Rita know pertinent information. An updated mailing list will be sent to Marilyn.

Journey Treasurer Report: No changes. John Wolcott agreed to do an audit.

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

- ❖ 2019 Montana Outbound – May 9 – 16. JCs: Rita Powell and Eileen Minette. 2 remaining spaces
- ❖ 2019 Edmonton inbound – June 16 – 22. Approval of JC applications for Ted Powell and Pat Byers, as co-JC's. (John/Eileen) **MSP**. Ted discussed subsidy policy for overnight at Coast.
- ❖ World Conference in Boulder, Colorado – July 23 -27.
- ❖ 2019 Atlanta Inbound – August 13 – 19. JCs: John Wolcott and Mary Ellen Lind. 16 coming.
- ❖ 2019 New Zealand Outbound – Oct. 12 – 27. JCs: Marilyn Peterson & Chris Duval. There are 20 spaces; 17 people have expressed interest.
- ❖ 2020 Journey Matches: Outbound Manitoba, Canada, July (possibly to include Edmonton). Potential Open World Inbound: Rita & Chris (additional material from FFI to be received.)
- ❖ Texas for next year? Rita

Booklets: Chris indicated need for a back-up person (for Marilyn) to prepare Journey booklets, noting that these need to be completed 2 weeks prior the workshop for the respective Journey, and ready to be handed out at the respective workshop.

Committee Chairperson Reports:

- ❖ **Internet Communication:** no report
- ❖ **Newsletter:** Mary Ellen requested to send her any updates on various Journeys.

Old Business:

- ❖ 2019 Friendship Shared: Shirley Karstens has volunteered to chair.
- ❖ Audit of 2018 Journey Treasury: John Wolcott to conduct audit.
- ❖ 2019 World Beat Festival Booth: Chris Duval. Theme: "India." Committee to be formed next month to plan our participation.
- ❖ Chris recommends that we need a policy related to board voting by email, per the Oregon Nonprofit Guidelines.

New Business:

- ❖ President Chris Duval requested \$500 towards World Conferences costs. (Rita/Ted) **MSP**
Chris will send a treasury request form to Peter.
- ❖ Request from John Francis to use club's projector and speaker for FFI related use. Determined that old equipment would be donated to him.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ❖ April Board Meeting: April 10th, 1 p.m., Albany Public Library
- ❖ April General Meeting: April 28th, 2 p.m., Albany Public Library. Program: Festival at Sea Report by Dennis, Mary Ellen, Rod, Raylene, Marilyn and Chris.
- ❖ May Board Meeting: May 8th, 1 p.m. location tbd
- ❖ May General Meeting: May 19th, 2 p.m., location tbd. Program: The Refugee Relief Project, Sher & Gary Davidson.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Harr

Note from newsletter editor, Mary Ellen Lind. She needs to receive information for the July issue of Friendship Connections by Tuesday, June 25. Thank you for your participation in providing the content for our newsletter.

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