



friendship force

GREATER MILWAUKEE

a world of friends is a world of peace

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2023

www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org

president's message

I shouldn't get ahead of myself, but I'm getting more and more excited about 2024. We still have a few months of 2023, with an inbound journey from Toulouse, France — see page 3 for events you can participate in — and the FFI World Conference in early October in Dubrovnik, Croatia, where I'll hope to make contacts for another outbound journey for our club for next year.



Chris Vogel

We're going into the New Year with a number of new members who have already begun energizing our club with their participation in activities and journeys. I'm sure each of you is looking forward to getting to know these new members and making them feel welcome.

You'll hear a lot more about this in the months ahead, but an exciting development for 2024 is that Friendship Force International chose to hold its superregional conference for U.S. and Canadian clubs in Milwaukee Oct. 7-9. Field Representatives voted 8-1 for Milwaukee, over Lake Tahoe.

FFI will do all the conference planning, and delegates will stay in area hotels. But our chapter will certainly have a role representing the host city.

Our own Bob Mitchell, FFI's Midwest Field Representatives, said that "our members will all be asked to contribute ideas about how our club could serve the visitors (probably 200-300) in such ways as airport shuttles, tour guides, pre- or post hosting, etc. Also think of your favorite excursions for conference goers."

Our club also is proposing to host — probably in fall 2024 — a delegation of young professionals from a former Soviet Union country through the Congressional Office for International Leadership (COIL). If our proposal is accepted, we'll need members to help plan a program for their visit, as well as hosts for their stay. More to come!

SEPT. 10: SPOTLIGHT ON NEW BERLIN

Can you name the New Berlin woman born in 1863 who played an integral role in ratifying the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution giving women the right to vote? Which Wisconsin two-term governor resided in New Berlin as a child and created the Department of Motor Vehicles?

Venture through the Prospect Hill Settlement District at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10 to find these answers. Stroll through a log home, two historic homes, a carriage barn, and a red school house located at 19885 W. National Avenue. This 30th Anniversary of the New Berlin Historical Society is a free event.

At 2 p.m., a mini-parade will honor this anniversary with antique tractors, vintage cars, and enormous bicycles.

*See **NEW BERLIN**, page 4*

OCT. 21: FLANNEL FEST A TASTE OF FALL

Put on your flannels and join us at the Holy Hill Art Farm Flannel Fest, 4958 Holy Hill Road, Hubertus, on Saturday, Oct. 21. The event runs from 2-9 p.m., but you can come when you want and stay as long as you wish.

The price is \$27 per carload. There are groomed walking trails, bonfires in the evening, live music, a chainsaw artist, and beverages and food available for purchase.

*See **FLANNEL FEST**, page 4*

at a glance

9/5 5th @ 5 at the South Shore Yacht Club, hosted by Mary Buczynski. R.S.V.P to 414.517.3472 or Buczynski.mary@gmail.com.

9/10 Prospect Hill Settlement District, New Berlin, 12:30 p.m. Take-out lunch at Gayle Best's mother's house in New Berlin. R.S.V.P. to Gayle, phone 262.790.9221; text 414-469-8433 or email gbest40215@aol.com by Sept. 7.

9/13 Book Club, 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright.

9/20 W.H.E.T. 1:30 p.m. at Mary Knoll Park, 615 S. Sunnyslope Road, Brookfield. R.S.V.P. to Ann Line, 262.784.3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com.

10/9 FFGM Board meeting 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

10/19 W.H.E.T. 1:30 p.m. on Greenway Trail, Elm Grove. R.S.V.P. to Ann Line, 262.784.3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com.

10/21 Holy Hill Art Farm Flannel Fest, 2-9 p.m., 4958 Holy Hill Road, Hubertus, \$27 per carload. R.S.V.P. to Ann Line, 262.784.3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com, by Oct. 14 for carpooling.

2023 Journeys

Feb. 18-25 — Phoenix, AZ Outbound

April 18-21 — Mini-Inbound, Quad Cities

July 28-Aug. 4 — Asheville, NC Inbound

Sept. 28-Oct. 5 — Toulouse, France Inbound

Check my.friendshipforce.org frequently for other travel opportunities.



Manitowoc Day featured a Rahr-West Art Museum visit.

5th at 5

These events are a great opportunity for you to invite your friends who might be potential FFGM members.

September 5: Mary Buczynski is hosting at South Shore Yacht Club, 2300 E. Nock St., Milwaukee. Mary will bring a cooler with drinks, but asks that FFGM members bring appetizers or a dessert to share. People also will be able to buy drinks and food at the yacht club, if they choose. R.S.V.P. to 414.517.3472 or Buczynski.mary@gmail.com.

Hosts are needed for October, November (when we may move to an earlier time) and December. Please respond to Barbara Geck at barbarafrancesgeck@gmail.com or 262.542.2960.

book club

The next meeting of the FFGM Book Club will be at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13 on Zoom. The book is *The Rent Collector* (Cambodia) by Camron Wright. Contact Ann Line at linerusy@yahoo.com if you wish to receive the Zoom link, which will be sent closer to the meeting.

The final 2023 FFGM Book Club discussion will be *Desirable Daughters* by Bharati Mukherjee (India) at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 8.

We also will be deciding which books to read in 2024, so start compiling your recommendations. Books can be fiction or non-fiction and need to take place in another country or deal with another ethnic group or culture.

FFGM Book Club welcomes all book lovers to participate in its bi-monthly gathering. We have been reading together since April 2017. If you have not joined us before, please decide to do so this fall or in 2024. We meet at 1:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months, usually on Zoom as we have members in West Bend, Sheboygan Falls and Door County.

MEET AMBASSADORS FROM TOULOUSE, FRANCE

Even if you're not hosting, day-hosting or dinner-hosting ambassadors coming from Toulouse, you are welcome to participate in many of the activities planned for their visit. All activities are open to all FFGM members, who will pay their own fees.

Here are highlights Host Coordinator Ann Line describes as "tentative, but likely quite close to final."

Thursday, Sept. 28:

- 3:15 p.m. Harley-Davidson Museum, 400 W. Canal St.
- 5:15 p.m. Welcome Dinner at Motor Restaurant at the museum, followed by Harley-Davidson Bike Night and Concert ("Mixtape")

Friday, Sept. 29

- 10:30 a.m. Miller Brewery, 4251 W. State St.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch at Third Street Market Hall, 275 W. Wisconsin Ave., followed by walking tour of Old World 3rd Street (Usinger's, Wisconsin Cheese Mart)
- 3 p.m. Edelweiss boat trip, 205 W. Highland Ave.
- 5:30 p.m. Shrimp & Steak Fry at the VFW Post at 17980 W. Beloit Rd., New Berlin.

Sunday, Oct. 1

- 11 a.m. Chainsaw Carving & Art Festival at River Bend Nature Center, 3600 N. Green Bay Rd., Racine
- 1 p.m. Wisconsin Fish Fry at Joey's Yardarm Grill, 920 Erie St., Racine
- 3 p.m. S.C. Johnson Frank Lloyd Wright tour, 1525 Howe St., Racine. Meet at Golden Rondelle Theater.

Monday, Oct. 2

- 11 a.m. Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd.
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch at Leon's Frozen Custard, 3131 S. 27th St.
- Downtown Day : Part 2 — Riverwalk Tour (Bronze Fonz, Gertie the Duck, "Dream With the Fishes"), sculpture walk on Wisconsin Avenue, view Milwaukee Art Museum brise-soleil and Lakefront.

Tuesday, Oct. 3

- 11:15 a.m. Lunch at Sawmill Inn, 1729 W. Wolf Rd., Richfield
- 1 p.m. Holy Hill Basilica, 1525 Carmel Rd., Hubertus
- 3 p.m. Bobrowitz Sculpture, N93 W19174 Woodchuck Way, Colgate (Monches)

Wednesday, Oct. 4

- 10:30 a.m. Villa Terrace, 2220 N. Terrace Ave.
- 11:45 a.m. Short walking tour with visit to Black Cat Alley (street art) on E. Ivanhoe Place
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch at Crossroads Collective, 2238 N. Farwell Ave., or Beans & Barley, 1901 E. North Ave.
- 2 p.m. Cedarburg
- 5:15 p.m. Farewell dinner at The Farmstead, W62 N238 Washington Ave., Cedarburg.

W.H.E.T. WALKS IN BROOKFIELD, ELM GROVE

Let's get in at least two more W.H.E.T. walks while the weather holds!

Come walk with us at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20 at Mary Knoll Park, 615 S. Sunnyslope Rd. in Brookfield. It is just south of the freeway on the west side of the street. There is a sign, but it is not large. Go down the drive past the water tower and meet at the tennis courts. Much of the trail is wooded so you will have that "up north" feeling. Afterwards we will go to nearby Lee's Dairy Treat.

At 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 19, park your car at Sendik's Elm Grove, 13425 Watertown Plank Rd. We will walk part of the Greenway Trail, go under Bluemound Road, and walk to Krueger Park. We'll come back to Sendik's and then decide if we wish to go to Fazio's Chocolate Store or RJ's Ice Cream or the new Fairgrounds for our treat.

Please let Ann Line (linerusy@yahoo.com or 262.784.3085) know you're coming, so we know to look for you.



AN OLD-FASHIONED ANNUAL PICNIC

Members enjoyed a perfect summer day with great food, friends and a few surprises.

NEW BERLIN, *from page 1*

Before leaving, don't forget to purchase a few heirloom apples. These one-of-a-kind apples are often found in famous Chicago chefs' recipes.

Following this celebration, head east down National Avenue to Calhoun Road, where you can choose a take-out dinner from either Señor Luna's (Mexican food) at 1901 S. Calhoun Rd. or Pho L'Amour (Vietnamese food) at 16960 W. Greenfield Ave. (corner of Calhoun and Greenfield Ave.). Enjoy your take-out meal a short drive away at the home of Gayle Best's mother at 17400 W. Westward Dr. Relax in the comfort of her home surrounded by Friendship Force friends. Beverages will be provided.

Please R.S.V.P. **by Sept. 7** to Gayle Best at 262.790.9221 (phone) or 414-469-8433 (text) or to gbest40215@aol.com.

FLANNEL FEST, *from page 1*

The schedule of activities is extensive:

- 2-4 p.m. Chili Contest: taste and vote for your favorite
- 2-5 p.m. Prairieville Desperado Show (cowboy fast shooters)
- 2:30-4 p.m. line-dancing lessons;
- 4 p.m. hot air balloon launch
- 4:30-8:30 p.m. Tim Castle's Country Legends.

Tickets are available on Eventbrite and supposedly are limited. Because the price is for all you can fit in your car, it would be a good idea to carpool. Please let Ann Line know (linerusy@yahoo.com or 262.784.3085) if: A) you are willing to drive or B) you need a ride. She will try to arrange carloads according to location.

You need to contact her by **Oct. 14** at the latest; earlier would be greatly appreciated. After that date you will need to make your own arrangements.

MILWAUKEE WELL-DONE

Eight ambassadors from Friendship Force of Western North Carolina had a great time — along with many newer and long-standing members of FFGM — touring Milwaukee and surrounding communities July 28-Aug. 4. Many thanks to Host Coordinator Clarine Furey and the home hosts, day hosts and dinner hosts who made this journey a success!



SAVE NOV. 2:

POLISH CULTURE

We're chartering a bus and heading to Chicago on Thursday, Nov. 2, for a full day of Polish culture, with visits to the Polish Museum of America and three magnificent Polish Catholic churches.

The tour includes a sit-down lunch at a Polish restaurant.

FFGM will pitch in to help defray the cost of the trip, so it will be reasonable.

Watch your email for more details!

WANT AN FFGM POLO SHIRT?

Did you see the snappy polo shirts worn by ambas-



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sadors from North Carolina during their inbound journey this summer — the ones with the Friendship Force of Western North Carolina logo?

Would you be interested in a similar polo shirt with the official FFGM logo? If so, please email Kathy Luglio, kgluglio@gmail.com, **by Sept 8** and let her you know you'd like to order a shirt

and/or would like more information.

Kathy is investigating options. For example, we could get high-quality Lands' End polo shirts in the \$40 to \$45 range, depending on the fabric and style. The company would embroider our logo on it. Both men's and women's sizes would be available.

You could wear your polo to our events or as a conversation starter when you're out and about.

membership update

Please print and save with your directory.

Amy Bley – change email to amybley53074@outlook.com

New Members:

Kathy Buenning
W173N5545 Ravenwood Dr.
Menomonee Falls, WI. 53051
Email: kathybuenning@gmail.com
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Linda Epperson
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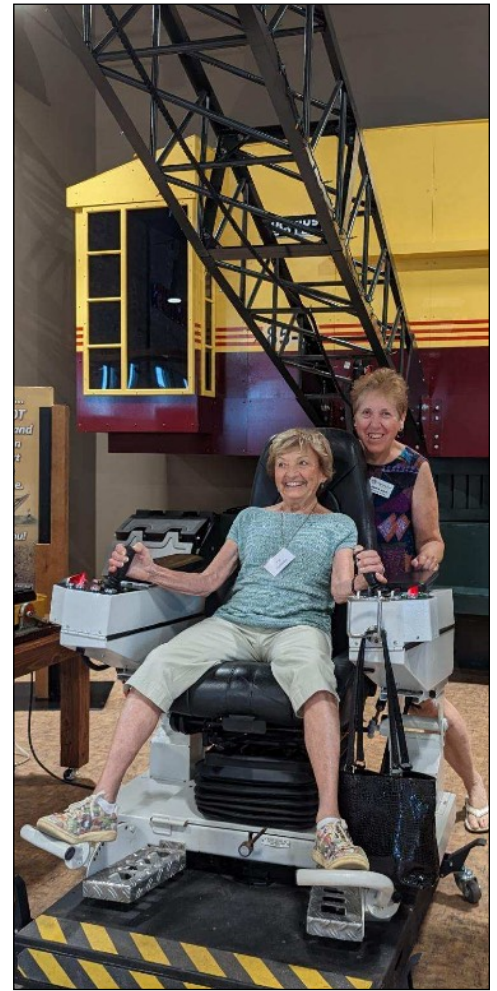
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Cell: 262.206.3299



AWESOME AUGUST 5TH
 The August 5th@ 5, hosted by Pat and Al Forsythe, gave many members a glimpse of South Milwaukee — including the Bucyrus Museum and Grant Park.



Small Dues Increase Coming for 2024

FFGM dues for 2024 will be \$45 per person, an increase of \$5. The Board in August raised dues because FFI is raising its dues by \$5.

The Board also eliminated the couples' rate of \$75, as every individual needs his or her own account and email address.

Treasurer Dorothy Krupa will be emailing invoices for dues this fall. They are due by the end of October. Please note that additional payment options will be available.

MUKWONAGO DAY

Mukwonago Historical Society warmly welcomed 27 FFGM members for an Aug. 9 tour of the Red Brick Museum. The group gathered for lunch at Fork in the Road restaurant.



friendship force

GREATER MILWAUKEE

EXECUTIVE AND OPERATING BOARD

President: Chris Vogel, 414.412.7721, chrisvogel52@gmail.com

Vice-President: Kathy Luglio, 262.391.9637, kgluglio@gmail.com

Secretary: Susan Feddersen, 262.302.9729, belisima563@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dorothy Krupa, 262.894.7076, dorothykrupa@me.com

Assistant Treasurer: Stephanie Freier, 920.912.7964, stephaniefreier412@gmail.com

Past Presidents: Bob & Nancy Mitchell, 262.370.6023 rjmitch1336@yahoo.com (Mitch); 262.370.6025 mitchell.nancy@gmail.com (Nancy)

Membership: Dorothy Kelley, 414.573.0107, dorothykelley60@gmail.com

Activities Co-Chairpersons: Ann Line, 262.784.3085, linerusy@yahoo.com; Gayle Best, 262.790.9221, gbest40215@aol.com

Community Outreach: Dave Kalan, 414.766.6056, dakalan@yahoo.com

Fundraising Chairperson: Ed Kelley, 262.375.1616, edkelley88@gmail.com

5th at 5 Events: Barbara Geck, 262.542.2960, barbarafrancesgeck@gmail.com

Community Connections: Clarine Furey, 262.993.8050, clarineaf@yahoo.com

Archivist: Rosie Haas, 414.259.1747, rmhaas1@gmail.com

Website: Jack Bridich, 920.960.3711, jbfdl@yahoo.com

FFGM Store: Position open

Newsletter: Rosie Haas, Chris Vogel, Dave Kalan, Ann Line

2023 AMBASSADOR/HOST COORDINATORS

Phoenix, AZ Inbound: Chris Vogel, AC
Quad-Cities Inbound: Nancy Rubly, HC
Asheville, NC Inbound: Clarine Furey, HC
Toulouse, France International Inbound: Ann Line, HC

WEBSITES & CONTACT INFORMATION

Midwest Regional FFI Rep.: Bob Mitchell, rjmitch1336@yahoo.com

Friendship Force of Greater Milwaukee websites:
www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org
(At www.friendshipforce.org under Wisconsin clubs)

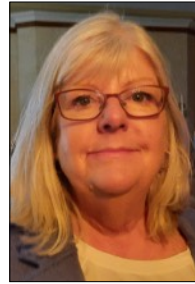
FFGM e-mail: ffgreatermilwaukee2@gmail.com

On Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/129406703803635/>

Friendship Force International: 1.800.554.6715, FFI@thefriendshipforce.org

new member profiles

SHERIE KUBIAK-LIBRIZZI



I am from the Milwaukee area and have lived in Whitefish Bay for the past 35 years. I have one child, Alexandra, who is living in Costa Rica as a digital nomad this year. We have hosted an AFS Student from Japan for a school year, and my daughter has studied abroad in Seville, Spain for a semester.

I have enjoyed traveling to many places including Europe (Greece, Spain, U.K., Ireland, Germany and Austria), Mexico, Central America, Caribbean as well as the U.S.

I love to travel and enjoy learning about different cultures. Some other favorites are reading, cooking and volunteering.

I am a recently retired accountant and looking forward to participating in activities with Friendship Force.

KATHY BUENNING



I was born and raised in Milwaukee. I am a Messmer High School graduate and completed my bachelor degree in Nursing from Marian College in Fond du Lac. I was a nurse at Saint Joseph's

Hospital for 36 years and then for four more years at Children's Hospital before retiring in 2020.

I am a widow of eight years and have two wonderful sons. Ryan is married to Melanie, and they have three children (Miles 8, Charlie 6, and Lewis 3). My younger son, Eric, lives with me.

My love of traveling started in high school when I went on trips to London, France, Italy and Switzerland with the foreign language club. National travel has been with family to national parks and ski trips.

I love meeting people and learning different things from everyone's life experiences. I look forward to sharing experiences with this group.