



friendship force

GREATER MILWAUKEE

a world of friends is a world of peace

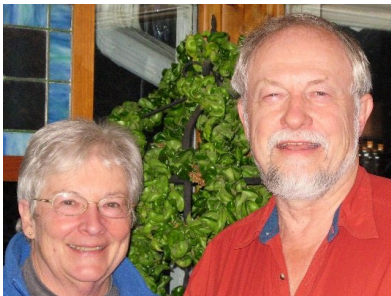
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2022

www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Nancy and Bob Mitchell
Co-Presidents

And you thought the pandemic was over. No — but we're still active thanks to the efforts of Ann Line and Mary Hauser, coming up with pastimes and events to keep us connected. We're also traveling to Tucson and Ontario! Details on these activities elsewhere in the newsletter.



Unfortunately, we will not be welcoming visitors from Santa Barbara and we will not be going to Western North Carolina due to a combination of COVID fears and scheduling conflicts.

The Northern Illinois club has contacted us to explore joint activities while keeping it local.

We do look forward to hosting an Open World delegation in mid-October. The Open World Program brings young professionals, present and future leaders of countries from the former Soviet Union. The members of the delegation (now mostly from Ukraine) interact with members of Congress in Washington before flying to cities around the U.S.

FFGM has a long history of hosting Open World delegations. In 2019 we were one of only 16 FF clubs to host, out of total of 121 organizations such as Rotary and Sister Cities.

The selection of our club comes with a sizable stipend so there is no cost to the club. Individual members of the delegation are delightful, so take advantage of the opportunity to host. There is a very strict protocol regarding COVID that delegates must follow. Contact us if you want to see the mandate. Oh, and make sure you are fully vaccinated.

Time to thank all of the club members who persevered and participated this year helping us weather our first year as Co-Presidents. Special thanks to Rosie Haas, historian, archivist and spotter of errors, as well as Chris Vogel, whose diligence and patience make possible the newsletter you are reading. Happy Holidays to all!

Survey Results In

The FFGM Board thanks all the members who participated in our Membership Survey. Fifty-six percent of our members shared their career background, skills set and interests. In summarizing the data we found the following:

- **Work Background:** Teachers or educators: 12 (22%); nurses or health care professionals: 6 (11.1%); engineers: 5 (9.25%); and social workers: 4 (7.4%). These 27 results represent 40% of respondents.
- **Interest and Hobbies:** Reading: 18 (25.5%); traveling: 12 (17.1%); gardening: 12 (17.1%); hiking and walking: 9 (12.9 %); bridge: 8 (11.4%); biking: 6 (8.5%); sewing: 5 (7.1%).

Club activities members enjoy:

- Home Hosting: 52%
- Day Hosting: 56%
- Dinner Hosting: 52%
- 5th At 5: 20%
- Committee Work: 26%
- Special Projects: 14%.

This data shows that our members are energetic and capable and focused on our club's main functions and committee activities. Dorothy Kelley, who compiled the data, said she was surprised to find out we had so many gardeners in the group. Our committees will use this data to solicit new involvement in our club's future activities.

AT A GLANCE

1/11 Winter Ikebana, demonstration by Cindy Hum, 2 p.m. via Zoom
 1/12 Book Club, 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. *A Man Called Ove*, Fred Bachman (Sweden)
 1/17 Trivia, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom
 1/29 Skywaukee Tour, 1 p.m., \$15
 2/02 Lake Simcoe, Ontario Outbound workshop, 6 p.m. via Zoom
 2/05 5th at 5 – Winter Bingo, 5 p.m. via Zoom
 2/07 Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom
 2/22 Snowshoeing, 1:30 p.m. at Mequon Nature Preserve

2022 Journeys

Feb. 8-17 – Tucson/Phoenix – Outbound
 June 25-July 2 – Lake Simcoe, Canada – Outbound
 Oct. 14-22 – Open World, Ukraine Education/STEM Program – Inbound

Potential Journeys – 2023

Fall 2023 - Toulouse, France Inbound

Because of the pandemic, 2022 journeys are tentative. If you have questions, contact Bob or Nancy Mitchell.

5th at 5 / Winter Bingo

In November we had fun playing Fall Bingo. Now it's time for Winter Bingo!

Join your FFGM friends at 5 p.m. on February 5 at 5 via Zoom to chat and visit—and also to play Winter Bingo.

It may be cold outside, but Winter Bingo and friendly fun will chase away the cold. You could be a winner!

BOOK CLUB

The following books have been selected for our Book Club in 2022. Until further notice, Book Club sessions will be held on Zoom. We hope that changes in the next year.

We continue to meet at 1:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months.

Jan. 12: *A Man Called Ove* by Fred Bachman (Sweden). Facilitator: Marisue Zillig.

March 9: *Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* by Lisa See (China). Facilitator: TBD

May 11: *The Book of Lost Names* by Kristin Harmel (France). Facilitator: Rosie Haas.

July 13: *Everything Inside*, a collection of stories by Edwidge Lanticant (Caribbean/Haiti). Facilitator: Iva Richards.

Sept. 14: *The Samurai's Garden* by Gail Tsukiyama (Japan). Facilitator: Mary Hauser

Nov. 9: *When the Elephants Dance*, by Tess Uriza Holthe (Philippines). Facilitator: Ann Line.

Any FFGM member may participate in any book club meeting even if you have not read or completed reading the selected book.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11 WINTER IKEBANA



FFGM member Cindy Hum will give an Ikebana flower arranging demonstration on ideas for winter arrangements and centerpieces to brighten up those winter days.



No need to go out in the cold: Cindy's presentation will be at 2 p.m. via Zoom.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17

TRIVIA NIGHT

It's a New Year and time to start another Trivia Evening at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 17. You could be the next winner . . . and get your name in the FFGM newsletter! Winners of the November Trivia Evening were Ann Line, first place, and Carrie Landers, second place.

The Zoom link will be sent closer to the date. Join your FFGM friends for an evening of fun!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

SKYWAUKEE TOUR ALL INDOORS

No need to brave the winter elements to participate in this great January tour! The Historic Milwaukee Skywauke Tour is 100% inside. Get a look at downtown Milwaukee from a different perspective.

The details: Meet at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 29. The tour starts INSIDE in the Plankinton Arcade in the Grand Avenue Mall, 161. W. Wisconsin Ave. Meet the guide inside on the street level in front of the John Plankinton statue and the circular staircase, just outside of TJ Maxx.

Parking is available in the structure just south of the Arcade.

Headsets are free for the tour. Masks are required. There is a \$15 charge if you are not a member of Historic Milwaukee. The tour is **limited to 15 people**.

Send your registration and payment by January 20 to Mary Hauser, 10131 W. Nash St., Wauwatosa WI 53222.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

SNOWSHOEING

It's time to get outside, have fun, and get some exercise. How about going snowshoeing?

You've never been on snowshoes? No problem! If you can walk, you can snowshoe! Join us at 1:30 p.m. at the Mequon Nature Preserve, 8200 W. County Line Rd. No snowshoes? Again, no problem! We can reserve snowshoes at no cost at the Mequon Nature Preserve. Some people use poles to snowshoe, but they are definitely not necessary and are not available at the Mequon Nature Preserve. Bring your own if you have them.

R.S.V.P. to Ann Line at linerusy@yahoo.com or 262-784-3085 so she can reserve the snowshoes by Feb. 18.

Tucson/Phoenix Journey

February 8-17

Nine members of FFGM, as well as a potential member, two St. Petersburg, FL, members and a woman from the Santa Barbara, CA club, will be ambassadors Feb. 8-13 in Tucson, AZ. The Western Arizona FF in Phoenix will host our ambassadors for an additional four days.

Kris Roepsch, who is a member of both FFGM and the Tucson Club, has planned an exciting itinerary that includes visits to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum; a tour of San Xavier, the White Dove Mission Church; a tram ride and hiking at Sabino Canyon; the Gem Show; a vaudeville performance; the Tucson Botanical Gardens; and activities in downtown Tucson.

Then it's on to Phoenix for hoop dancing at the Heard Museum, the Musical Instrument Museum, a visit to the Sedona area, a number of optional visits, and a cowboy dinner.

Cindy Hum, Pat Graham and Chris Vogel are Ambassador Coordinators.

Lake Simcoe, Canada,

Outbound

June 25-July 2, 2022

The first workshop for this journey will be held on Zoom at 6 pm on Wednesday, Feb. 2.

A Zoom link will be sent to everyone already on the list. If you would like to be added to the list, contact Dave Kalan at dakalan@yahoo.com.

There will be an early selection of ambassadors at the beginning of March, and further applications will be taken after that date.



Enjoying an autumn walk through Scarecrow Lane at Retzer Nature Center, from left, Clarine Furey, Rosie Haas, Ann Line, Mrs. Potato Head, Jack Bridich, Mr. Potato Head and Louise Cieslak.

Scarecrow Lane

Paul Cieslak (right) makes a convincing scarecrow while Mary Hauser (far right) inspects one of the nearly three dozen scarecrows made by community groups and families. Below, from left, Mary Jo Travis, Clarine Furey and Jo Anne Behling take a break.



Friendship Force Greater Milwaukee Annual Meeting

via Zoom

December 5, 2021

Call to Order: Co-President Bob Mitchell

called the Zoom meeting to order at 3:40 pm. Thirty-two members were present. Bob remembered those members who had passed during the past year and thanked members for attending this meeting. Four Raffle Drawings were held at various timepoints during the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Treasure Dorothy Krupa

reported that the Club is in a good financial position. The Club has a total of \$25,000 in three different accounts: \$8,823 in the General Fund, \$17,705 in the Wellington fund and \$6,177 in a restricted fund to provide for various anticipated expenses. There was a loss of \$2,700 due primarily to the reduction in membership fees related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Election of Officers: Rosie Haas presented the slate of candidates Secretary – Susan Feddersen; Treasurer – Dorothy Krupa; and Assistant Treasurer – Ruth Ann Hoppe.

Bob Mitchell opened the floor for additional nominations of which there were none. Mary Hauser motioned that the slate of officers be approved by acclamation; Louise Cieslak seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice acclamation.

Membership: Dorothy Kelley reported that we had 3 new members during the year. Membership renewals were sent to 108 members of whom 96 renewed; this includes 19 who have not yet paid. Twelve (12) members cancelled their memberships, and the committee will follow-up with the non-renewals to determine the reasons why they did not renew.

Survey Report: Ed Kelley presented top-line results of the membership survey. Fifty-four of 96 members (56%) returned the survey. Club members have a wide variety of employment backgrounds and current interests/hobbies. Club members were very interested in participating in various Club and Journey activities but there was little interest in Club leadership service. The complete report is available on-line for Board Members.

Presidents' Report: Bob Mitchell thanked the Activities Committee chairpersons for their creative work planning a variety of activities during the year – Zoom meetings for Trivia Night, Sculpture and other presentations, Book Club, 5th at 5 for Zoom and hybrid meetings. He also thanked other chairpersons for their support.

FFI has current financial challenges due primarily to issues related to the pandemic. FFI dues have increased as a result. FFI has requested that Clubs provide community service opportunities for all Inbound Journeys.

A Journey to Florida is being offered by the Detroit FF Club; interested members can contact that Club for more information.

Nancy Mitchell reminded everyone to register as members at my.FriendshipForce.org; registration is required for Journey participation.

Mary Hauser thanked Bob and Nancy for their leadership during this difficult time.

JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS AND PREVIEWS

Nancy Rubly reported on the Inbound Connecticut Journey. There were several challenges during this Journey due to the pandemic that required flexibility in managing the agenda and activities. The baseball game was particularly difficult. Nonetheless, there was agreement that it was a nice week and several Connecticut participants thanked those who had coordinated the Journey.

Chris Vogel reported that 13 ambassadors are participating in the 6-day Journey to Tucson, AZ, scheduled for Feb 8-13. An interesting agenda of activities is planned. The Journey will be extended to include Phoenix for 4 days for those who are interested.

Dave Kalan reported that the Simcoe, Ontario, Canada Journey is scheduled for June 25-July 2. At this time, 15 members can be accommodated for the Journey, which will have a primary focus on outdoor activities. The cost will be approximately \$400.

See **ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**, page 6

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES, *continued*

Bob Mitchell reported that Journeys to Asheville NC, Santa Barbara CA, and a possible Inbound International journey in 2022 all need further discussion and Board approval. FFGM has been invited to participate in Open World in October, 2022; this needs Board approval.

Ann Line reported on the Activities Committee. Upcoming activities include:

- Ikebana with Cindy Hum: Jan. 11 at 2 p.m.
- FFGM Book Club: *A Man Called Ove* on Jan. 12 at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom
- Trivia Night on Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom
- Skywaukee Historic Milwaukee tour on Jan. 29 at 1 p.m.
- 5th at 5 / Winter Bingo on Feb. 5 at 5 p.m. on Zoom
- Snowshoeing on Feb. 24 at 1:30 p.m. at Mequon Nature Preserve

Cooking with Dave Kalan and Sue Pack:

Dave Kalan presented a cooking demonstration on Spinach Burek and Artichoke and Olive Appetizers.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectively submitted, Carole DeRoche

2021 Annual Meeting Raffle Prizes

Thanks to all the members who graciously donated an item or service for our Annual Meeting Raffle. Congratulations to the winners!

The Activities Committee donated:

- Vista King boat trips won by Carrie Landers and Ed Kelley
- A free FFGM membership (\$40), won by Chris Vogel
- Admission to the Annual Picnic (\$20) won by Kathy Luglio.

Donna Baldwin-Haut donated Pleasant Valley Farm Honey, won by Mary Hauser and Dave Kalan.

Iva Richards donated

- Two dozen cookies to each of two winners, Dorothy Krupa and Charlotte Ann Button.
- One pint of Culvers Custard each month for 6 months, which Ann Line and Gen Brunhoefer won.

Mary Hauser donated two passes to Old World Wisconsin, won by Kathy Sawin.

Bob and Nancy Mitchell donated

- Two sets of two passes to the Jewish Museum, which Susan Feddersen and Marisue Zillig won.
- A six-month membership to the Wisconsin Historical Society, won by Sue Pack and Louise Cieslak.

Among several outings this fall, FFGM members visited The Warehouse, a new private art museum and gallery at 1635 St. Paul Ave., Milwaukee. At left, Nancy Mitchell, Nancy Rubly and Rosie Haas view an exhibit. At right, Cindy Hum, left, and Kathy Luglio look at a photographic mural taken in China.





EXECUTIVE AND OPERATING BOARD

Co-Presidents: Bob & Nancy Mitchell, 262.370.6023

rjmitch1336@yahoo.com; (Mitch); 262.370.6025

mitchell.nancy@gmail.com (Nancy)

Vice-President: Chris Vogel, 414.412.7721, cvogel@wi.rr.com

Secretary: Susan Feddersen, belisima563@gmail.com

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

Assistant Treasurer: Ruthanne Hoppe, h20coach@aol.com

Past President: Ann Line, 262.784.3085, linerusy@yahoo.com

Membership: Dorothy Kelley, 262.375.1616,

dorothykelley60@gmail.com

Activities Co-Chairpersons: Mary Hauser, 414.466.5688,

mhauser2012@att.net; Ann Line, 262.784.3085,

linerusy@yahoo.com

Leadership Development: Dave Kalan, 414.766.6056,

dakalan@yahoo.com

Public Relations: Chris Vogel, 414.412-7721, cvogel@wi.rr.com

Communications: Position open

Fundraising Co-Chairpersons: Ed Kelley, 262.375.1616,

edkelley88@gmail.com; Donna Baldwin-Haut, 414.550.4450,

djhaut2006@sbcglobal.net

5th at 5 Events: Barbara Geck, 262.542.2960,

barbarafrancesgeck@gmail.com

Community Outreach: Sue Pack, 414.351.5572,

spack@wi.rr.com

Community Connections: Clarine Furey, 262.993.8050,

clarineaf@yahoo.com

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

FFGM Store: Position open

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

2022-23 AMBASSADOR/HOST COORDINATORS

Tucson, AZ, Domestic Outbound: *Cindy Hum, Pat Graham, Chris Vogel co-ACs*

Lake Simcoe, Canada International Outbound: *Dave Kalan, AC*

Toulouse, France International Inbound: *Ann Line, HC*

WEBSITES & CONTACT INFORMATION

Midwest Regional FFI Rep.: Dale Moore,

mooredale@monmail.com

Friendship Force of Greater Milwaukee websites:

www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org

(At www.friendshipforce.org under Wisconsin clubs)

FFGM on Facebook:

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

Friendship Force International: 1.800.554.6715,

FFI@thefriendshipforce.org

FFI fax: 1.404.688.6148

FFI address: 279 W. Crogan St., Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Have You Watched An FFI Virtual Experience?

Maybe you can't hop on a flight to Kyoto, Japan, at the moment. Perhaps a Baltic cruise is a bit daunting during a pandemic.

But you'll find a wealth of experiences at my.friendshipforce.org — more than 60 different options, based on travel by FFI members throughout the world. (If you don't yet have an account at the new member portal, please sign up. It's easy — and it's how we find out what's happening. Every FFGM member needs one.)

There are many new opportunities to reach out on-line and learn something new about your hobbies or travel to new land and experience new cultures.

At the portal, click the "Virtual Experiences" tab. The list of experiences continues to grow — so it's worth going back frequently.

A few of the many videos available:

- Face & Places: Switzerland — A look behind the postcard
- East Africa Culture
- Tour Tips for Kyoto, Japan
- Come From Away — Inspirational 9/11 Story of Gander, Newfoundland
- Hiking the Camino de Santiago Trail
- Exploring Northern California and Reno, Nevada
- Castles, Caves & Kegs: Hiking in Bavaria
- Face & Places: Bursa, Turkey
- Sacred Sites of Northern India: Parts 1 and 2

Besides travel, videos feature hobbies like genealogy research, photography, watercolor, painting landscapes with acrylics and creating succulent garden rock art. And cooking: Learn to make paella from a Colombian chef.

There's music, celebrations, even videos that give you an opportunity to improve a foreign language.