



friendship force

GREATER MILWAUKEE

a world of friends is a world of peace

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2023

www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org

president's message

Since I joined FFGM in July 2017, I've been mightily impressed with the dedication of several long-time members. Our "Pandemic presidents," Ann Line and my immediate predecessors Bob and Nancy Mitchell, are certainly among them. Without the dedication of people like Rosie Haas, Dorothy and Ed Kelley, Donna Baldwin-Haut, Dave Kalan, Sue Pack, Mary Hauser, the late Doris Mueller (who first told me about Friendship Force) and a number others, there wouldn't be an FFGM.



Chris Vogel

As we anticipate COVID and all the other bugs waning in the new year, how can you help your club continue to thrive? Think about it and let me know. It may be as easy (and enjoyable) as coming to the events planned by our energetic and creative Activities Committee. Of course, we always need members willing to host ambassadors, provide dinners and act as day hosts.

And we need people willing to serve on committees — some we may not have even thought of yet. As an example, next summer we'd like to have an event to attract new members. The last FFGM membership event was in 2017, and I'm told it was a big effort. Many hands make light work — please let me know if you'd like to help.

When you get together with old friends and when you meet new people, please keep FFGM in mind. Later, we'll be asking you for names of people to invite to the membership event.

And please, when you describe FFGM to others, emphasize the "friendship" aspects. Travel is only a part of what we are. As COVID worries lessen, we're stepping up efforts to help in the community and get to know the rich diversity of our area.

Join in!

DONATING FOOD, CLOTHES & GETTING A TASTE OF PERU

Many thanks to the generous people who brought food and clothing items for Hope Ministries to the FFGM Annual Meeting. Now you can see for yourself where and how these donations are organized.

Join us at noon on Wednesday, Jan. 11, at Mount Hope Lutheran Church, 8633 W. Becher St., West Allis, for a thorough presentation of the work done by Hope Ministries.

Please park in the big parking lot behind the church and enter by the rear door.

If you forgot to bring something to the Annual Meeting, you can do so on Jan.

11. Canned goods, non-perishable items, toiletries, new socks and blankets are needed.

After the presentation we will go for lunch at 1 p.m. at Chef Paz, which is nearby at 9039 W. National Avenue. The food is Peruvian, and Chef Maritza Paz is from Peru. She has agreed to talk to us briefly about Peruvian cuisine and answer any questions you may have.

You will be able to order from the menu or choose one of the four or five daily specials.

Although you do not need to send a check in advance, you do need to R.S.V.P. to Ann Line at 262-784-3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com because Chef Paz needs to have a count in advance. Please let Ann know by Jan. 8.

at a glance

1/5 5th at 5 – Mary Hauser's, 10131 W. Nash Ave, Wauwatosa, R.S.V.P. mhauser2012@att.net, 414.466.5688

1/11 12 noon, Hope Ministries, Mount Hope Lutheran, 8636 W. Becher St, West Allis. 1 p.m. lunch at Chef Paz, 9039 W. National Ave., West Allis. R.S.V.P. to Ann Line, 262.784.3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com.

1/18 Book Club, 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. The book is *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer.

2/1 Trivia, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom

2/5 5th at 5 ?? HOST NEEDED.

2/6 Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom.

2/28 Snowshoeing, 1:30 p.m., Mequon Nature Preserve, 8200 W. County Line Road.

JOURNEYS 2023

February — Phoenix, AZ Out-bound

Mid-July — Asheville, NC In-bound

Fall 2023 — Toulouse, France In-bound

November — Taiwan Global Out-bound (through FFI)

Check my.friendshipforce.org for other travel opportunities.

5th at 5

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

January: Mary Hauser and Jerry Randall, 10131 W. Nash Ave., Wauwatosa. R.S.V.P. to Mary, 414.466.5688 or mhauser2012@att.net. Please bring an appetizer and a beverage.

Hosts are needed for February and the rest of 2023. Please respond to Barbara Geck at barbarafrancesgeck@gmail.com or 262.542.2960.

book club

The FFGM Book Club welcomes all book lovers to participate in its bi-monthly book club. We have been reading together since April 2017. If you have not joined us before, please decide to do so in 2023. We meet at 1:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the odd-numbered months, usually on Zoom as we have members in West Bend, Sheboygan Falls and Door County.

Books read can be fiction or non-fiction and need to take place in another country or deal with another culture or ethnic group.

Books for 2023, which the Book Club recently nominated and voted on, include the following.

Jan. 18: *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer (Native American: Potawatomi)

March 8: We will try something a little different. We will read three books by Tony Hillerman and will divide the group in three, alphabetically by last name to determine the book you will read. A - H: *Dance Hall of the Dead*; I - Q: *Skinwalkers*; R - Z: *A Thief of Time* (Native American: Navajo).

May 10: *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman (Sweden)

July 12: *The Art of Hearing Heartbeats* by Jan-Philipp Sendker (Burma)

Sept. 13: *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright (Cambodia)

Nov. 8: *Desirable Daughters* by Bharati Mukherjee (India)

Please join us for as many books as you can. The Zoom link will be sent a few days in advance. Contact Ann Line at linerusy@yahoo.com if you wish to receive the Zoom link.

Think Snow . . .

. . . AND TRY SNOWSHOEING

What to do in the snow? Build a snowman? Go sledding? Shovel? So ordinary!

How about snowshoeing? You can give it a try at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 28, at the Mequon Nature Preserve, 8200 W. County Line Rd.

It's easy. If you can put one foot in front of the other, you can snowshoe. If you have never snowshoed before, don't worry. We will help you.

Don't have snowshoes? No problem! The Mequon Nature Preserve "rents" them for free. The preserve has groomed trails for public use if there is a four inch snow base. If you want to use poles, you need to bring your own, but they definitely are not necessary.

Please let Ann Line (linerusy@yahoo.com) know if you are coming. A reservation count needs to be called in as there is a limited number of snowshoes available.



W.H.E.T. WORKS!

After lousy weather foiled previous tries, W.H.E.T. (Walking, Hiking, Eating, Talking) happened in October. From left, Clarine Furey, Bonnie Frederickson and Ann Line at Jacobus Park.

DO YOU PLAY MAH JONG?

Or do you want to learn? Several FFGM members meet at 1 p.m. every other Friday to play traditional Chinese-style Mah Jong. Contact Kathy Luglio at 262.391.9637 or kgluglio@gmail.com, or Cindy Hum at 414.573.6783 or cindyscreations@wi.rr.com, for dates and location.

VOLUNTEER PROJECT HELPS HOMELESS FAMILIES

StreetLife Communities is an organization that provides services for the homeless and underserved. A group of volunteers called PBJ Express prepares peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwiches, which StreetLife Communities hands out to the homeless on the street.

FFGM has committed to provide 50 PBJ sandwiches once a month. It took Sue Pack and Dave Kalan only one hour to make the sandwiches for December and the cost was split. If we get enough people to volunteer, an individual may only have to participate several times a year.

Contact Dave at dakalan@yahoo.com if you are interested. StreetLife Communities also distributes home-baked cookies. Dave can provide more information to anyone interested in baking.

OUTBOUND JOURNEY TO PHOENIX

There's still room on the Feb. 18-25 journey to Friendship Force of Central Arizona (the greater Phoenix area). If you're interested, let Chris Vogel (cvogel@wi.rr.com or 414.412.7721) know immediately. The Phoenix club will soon open the journey up to other clubs if our club doesn't fill the 20 available spots.

The Phoenix club is planning activities such as a visit to the wonderful Music Instrument Museum, the Desert Botanical Gardens, a Native American reservation, and dinner with a Western show, with a side trip to Sedona.

TRIVIA NIGHT IS BACK!

It's time to start cramming! Join your FFGM friends for the first Trivia Night of 2023 at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 1, via Zoom.

You're bound to learn something, and you keep your own score so nobody except you knows which questions you missed!



DAY OF THE DEAD

At left and above, FFGM members admired “ofrendas” and other artwork related to Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) at Latino Arts at the United Community Center in Milwaukee. Lunch at the center’s Café el Sol followed.

DEC. 3, 2022, FFGM ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

The event at Hui’s Chinese Food in Wauwatosa started with a dance performance by the restaurant owner’s Chinese dance troupe.

Co-President Bob Mitchell called the meeting to order.

Treasurer’s Report: Dorothy Krupa reported the group is in solid financial position, with a total of \$34,600 in our accounts.

Activities: Ann Line asked members to be sure to read the upcoming newsletter and reported:

- The next 5th at 5 will be Jan. 5 at Mary Hauser’s home in Wauwatosa. Volunteers are needed to host for the rest of the year.
- On Jan. 11, FFGM will tour Hope Ministries, followed

by lunch at Chef Paz restaurant. Hope Ministries is a volunteer group that supports homeless people in West Allis and West Milwaukee. The group takes referrals from school teachers for families that are struggling and currently supports 90 families with 425 individuals.

- Trivia Night will resume in February on Zoom.
- A snow-shoeing event is planned in February at the Mequon Nature Preserve.
- On April 22, we will visit the Venerable Fire Collection in Slinger. This will be an educational and cultural experience.

See **ANNUAL**, page 5



Members of the 2023 Board, top row, from left, Kathy Luglio, Stephanie Freier, Chris Vogel and Treasurer Dorothy Krupa. Front row: past presidents Nancy and Bob Mitchell.

2022 Journey Highlights:

Simcoe in Ontario, Canada: This journey showed the power of connections, as half of the ambassadors were previous ambassadors to Milwaukee or previous hosts of ambassadors. Four FFGM members recently traveled to Australia with the Lake Simcoe club.

North Carolina: Ann Line reporting that ten ambassadors participated. Among other activities, they visited the Biltmore estate and a tea-tasting lesson at a tea shop.

Open World Program: Bob Mitchell reported that this event was highly successful. FFGM members hosted four doctors from blood donation centers throughout Ukraine and a facilitator, who visited blood banks in Madison and Milwaukee to learn techniques for collection, storage and maintenance of blood supplies. Bob especially thanked Versiti Blood Center of Southeastern Wisconsin, the American Red Cross in Madison and the Medical Center of Wisconsin for their wholehearted support. The doctors and hosts also attended a Ukrainian Catholic Church service, small dinners and welcoming and farewell receptions.

2023 JOURNEY PREVIEWS

Phoenix, AZ: Outbound Feb.18-25. There is still room on this journey; let Ambassador Coordinator Chris Vogel know if you are interested.



Dancers at Hui's Chinese Foods perform for the FFGM Annual Meeting.

Asheville, NC: Inbound in July. A host coordinator is still needed.

Toulouse, France: Inbound in late September/early October. Ann Line is the Host Coordinator. The Toulouse ambassadors will first travel to New Hampshire.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President: Chris Vogel
Vice President: Kathy Luglio
Assistant treasurer: Stephanie Freier
All officers were approved by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Susan Feddersen, Secretary



EXECUTIVE AND OPERATING BOARD

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

Vice-President: Kathy Luglio, 262.391.9637, kluglio@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, 262.375.1616, dorothykelley60@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

FFGM Store: Position open

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

2022-23 AMBASSADOR/HOST COORDINATORS

Phoenix, AZ Domestic Inbound: Chris Vogel, AC
Toulouse, France International Inbound: Ann Line, HC
Asheville, NC Inbound: HC needed

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

FFI fax: 1.404.688.6148

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

member updates

New address and telephone:

Laurene Harschutz

10100 W. Bluemound Rd.

Apt. 806E

Wauwatosa, WI 53226

H: 414.259.3744

NEW members:

Jim Landers

2332 Ramshead Ct.

Waukesha, WI 53188

907.672.2127

jlanders2001@gmail.com

Dave Vogel

2039 Pleasant St.

Wauwatosa, WI 53213

414.412.7721

vogel.davidm@gmail.com

new member profile

MEET BETTY RILEY

I was born and raised in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. My father and grandmother both graduated from the same high school as I did. I



have a sister and two boys and three granddaughters who I seldom see. Now retired from nursing and divorced, I am looking for new friends and traveling. My mother was English-born in India and came to Wisconsin as a war bride in 1945. My

grandparents remained in India/Pakistan, and I first traveled out of the country at age 21 to visit them. I love history and learning about different cultures. I have travelled to many countries over the last 30 years. I am very athletic and love hiking, skiing, ice skating (I was on a synchronized ice skating team), tennis and biking.