



friendship force

G R E A T E R M I L W A U K E E



Experience Different Views. Discover Common Ground.

JULY-AUGUST 2021

www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Nancy and Bob Mitchell
Co-Presidents

Isn't it nice to go maskless? FFGM has had two gatherings where members were able to socialize outdoors. Lynden Sculpture Gardens, on Brown Deer Road, was a special treat. If you missed our outing, or would like to go again, do so while there is free admission. Take a lunch and spend some unhurried time.



If you have a suggestion for an outdoor gathering contact one of the Activity Committee members, Ann Line and Mary Hauser. They are always looking for suggestions.

Have you been on the website my.friendshipforce.org? This is the members-only website where you can get information about what is happening on the national and international level. Register so that you are eligible for journeys as 41 members of our club have already done. Here you can register for the Monday, July 12 International Trivia Quiz at 1:30. You will be placed in a breakout room where English is the lingua franca, competing with other rooms. It was great fun when I did it.

On July 19 the FFI Book Club will be discussing "A Gentleman in Moscow" by Amor Towles (their first selection). On the public website www.friendshipforce.org you can engage in "virtual experiences"—a growing group of Vimeo productions ranging from travelogues to ikibana demonstrations to cooking recipes. As a club we could post a visual description of the attractions of Greater Milwaukee. You, as an individual, could post too. Take a look at the offerings.

Speaking of participation, please respond to calls for volunteers for the incoming journey of the Connecticut FF club (described elsewhere). We need your support to make it happen.

Connecticut Inbound August 20-27

We have been waiting a long time for journeys to bring us together with friends, but planning is in process for a Connecticut inbound Aug. 20-27.

Connecticut coordinator Ginger Smith sent us their wish list of Milwaukee favorites. We'll visit the Milwaukee Art Museum on Saturday, Aug. 21, and Irish Fest on Sunday, Aug. 22. The week may include a trip to the Grohmann Museum, a Lake Michigan cruise, a tour of a local brewery, and a visit to the Fresh Water Institute with lunch at Zocalo food truck park. Details are being finalized. On Wednesday, Aug. 25, the FFGM Annual Summer Picnic will be at Wirth Park in Brookfield. (See page 3.) High on the Connecticut wish list was a Brewers game, and we have purchased great seats for a 1 p.m. game on Thursday, Aug. 26. (FFGM members are welcome to buy their own tickets in Section 109 to join the fun.) Watch your emails for opportunities to meet the Connecticut ambassadors.



At this time there are 13 ambassadors: three couples, a single man and six single women.

We will need day hosts, dinner hosts and drivers. You can contact Nancy Mitchell for offers to help with any of the above or other ideas: mitchell.nancy@gmail.com.

AT A GLANCE

7/05: NO 5th at 5 event

7/8: West Bend Day (R.S.V.P by 7/1)

7/14: Book Club 1:30 pm "Crescent and Star: Turkey Between Two Worlds" by Stephen Kinzer. At Louise Cieslak's, W171 S7932 Lannon Dr, Muskego, 414-422-0652.

8/5: 5th at 5 at Barb & Joe Geck's, 1258 Seitz Dr, Waukesha, 262-542-2960

8/25: Annual Picnic

9/5: 5th at 5 at Michelle & Norm Humitz's, 3811 Turnwood Dr, Richfield, 414-416-1107

9/8: Book Club 1:30 pm, "How to Be an Indian in the 21st Century" by Louis V. Clark II and "Ru" by Kim Thuy.

2021/2022 Journeys

August 20-27, 2021 – Connecticut Inbound

February 2022 – Tucson Outbound

June 24-July 2, 2022 – Lake Simcoe, Canada – Outbound

Potential Journeys 2022 & 2023

Western North Carolina (Asheville) – Outbound

Postponed to 2023

Toulouse, France – Inbound.

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



Join Us for West Bend Day Thursday, July 8

Mark your calendars for a full day of activities, beginning at 11 a.m., in charming West Bend, including:

- LABYRINTH GARDENS in Regner Park (above)
- MOWA (Museum of Wisconsin Art), considered one of the country's top museums for regional art
- HERITAGE CENTER/OLD COURTHOUSE MUSEUM
- TOUCAN FOOD & CUSTARD, featured recently in the Wednesday Food Section of the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*.



Your only cost will be for lunch and ice cream. FFGM member and West Bend resident Marisue Zillig has arranged for waivers of the \$15 membership fee at MOWA and has passes for us at the Tower Heritage Center/Old Courthouse Museum. Thanks, Marisue!

You do not need to send any money in advance as you will order at Toucan (Middle Eastern as well as burgers and wings and custard with '50s and '60s music). However, you **MUST R.S.V.P. by July 1** to Ann Line at 262-784-3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com, as we need a count for museum waivers and passes.

If you are interested in carpooling, please contact Ann Line to offer to drive or to request a ride. The meeting spot will be determined once we know who is interested in carpooling. If you drive on your own, we will start at the Labyrinth Gardens in Regner Park at 11 a.m. Directions will be sent to all who have reserved. If you wish to stay longer, Marisue has ideas for visiting the historic downtown and Riverwalk.

Please join your FFGM friends on July 8! Don't forget to reserve your spot!

Get Your Picnicking On!

We have two summers' worth of picnicking to catch up on! The Friendship Force of Greater Milwaukee Annual Picnic will be **5 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 25, at Wirth Park**, 2585 Pilgrim Road, Brookfield. We'll meet at Shelter #6, at the rear of the west end of the park.

Let's celebrate:

- ★ **Being together again**
- ★ **FFGM past activities and contributions**
- ★ **Our special retired guests.**

The picnic also gives everyone a chance to meet our visiting ambassadors from Connecticut.

Our smokin' good menu is BBQ, with three meats: sliced brisket, pulled pork and smoked turkey. Sides include baked beans with brisket, mac 'n' cheese and coleslaw. We'll also enjoy cornbread and watermelon and, of course, dessert.

Please send your check for \$18 made out to FFGM to Mary Hauser at 10131 W. Nash Avenue, Wauwatosa, WI 53222 so that it arrives by August 20.

PICNIC RESERVATION

Number attending at \$18 per person _____

Check enclosed for \$_____ made out to FFGM

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

The reservation deadline is Aug. 20.

Join Madison FF for a Day of Biking

Are you up for a 20- or 25-mile bike ride? Friendship Force-Madison is hosting a week-long journey called "Escape to Wisconsin by Bike," and the club would welcome any FFGM member who'd like to join for a day of biking. The journey is September 13-20. Milwaukee club members may want to agree on one day when we could go together.

Biking will be mainly on dedicated biking trails that are either covered with crushed limestone or paved.

The Madison club has chosen trails surrounding Madison and beautiful area lakes. Lunches will be in local restaurants or picnics along the trail, and bikers have options for visiting some local sites along the way.

If you're interested, call or email Chris Vogel, 414-412-7721 or cvogel@wi.rr.com, to talk about each day's itinerary and which day you'd like to go.

CALENDAR

5TH AT 5

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We have moved outdoors. These events are a great opportunity for you to invite your friends who might be potential members. Please remember to bring a lawn chair.

July 5: NO Event. Happy Independence Day!

Aug. 5: Barb and Joe Geck, 1258 Seitz Dr, Waukesha, 262-542-2960.

Sept. 5: Michelle and Norm Humitz, 3811 Turnwood Dr, Richfield, 414-416-1107.

HELP NEEDED: We need hosts for October, November and December for the Fifth at Five. Please respond to Barbara Geck

at barbarafrancesgeck@gmail.com or 262-542-2960.

BOOK CLUB

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We are moving to in-person book club meetings. Each session will start at **1:30 p.m.** and will have a facilitator who is familiar with the book. Book club selections are made from books that involve another country or culture. All FFGM members are welcome to participate in the book club discussions that are held every other month on the following dates:

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July 14: NOTE CHANGE:
Crescent and Star: Turkey Between Two Worlds by Stephen Kinzer.
Location: Louise Cieslak's, W171 S7932 Lannon Dr., Muskego,

414-422-0652. Please bring a lawn chair.

September 8: Two short, rather poetic works: *How to Be an Indian in the 21st Century* by Louis V. Clark III (Native American) and *Ru*, by Kim Thuy (Vietnam)

November 10: *The Bookseller of Kabul* by Asne Selerstad (Afghanistan)

If you have not finished a selected book, and even if you haven't read it at all, we invite you to join our lively discussions as a listener or a participant.

2022 Outbound Journey to Ontario, Canada

We were scheduled for an outbound journey to a brand-new club in Ontario, Canada in late June 2020 but, of course, it was cancelled. This club located around Lake Simcoe (two hours north of Toronto) has members from small cities and towns around the lake and the neighboring areas. They are very excited to host our club as their first inbound journey and to experience Friendship Force in 2022.

They are outdoors people so we probably will keep many of the outdoor activities we planned in 2020, as well as take boat trips on a lake and the locks. We hope to celebrate Canada Day in a small village and participate in the local parade.

Some Lake Simcoe members like to camp and are willing to take a limited number of ambassadors on a camping extension after the journey.

Most of our ambassadors who signed up in 2020 wanted to drive to Ontario. Maybe we can have car-pool options.

The tentative dates of the journey are **June 24-July 2, 2022**. Contact Dave Kalan at dakalan@yahoo.com or 414-766-6056 if you want to be put on the early list for this journey.





Nearly 20 FFGM members toured the Lynden Sculpture Garden in River Hills and then had a picnic lunch on June 16. It was a beautiful day and fun to be together again! Thanks to Mary Hauser for organizing the event and to Milwaukee Art Museum docents Bob Mitchell and Nancy Rubly for their insights into the sculptures.



Below, the Fifth at 5 at Bob and Nancy Mitchell's house attracted many members, who enjoyed touring the gardens and sitting—unmasked!—in the back yard.



Above, members took an easy trek along the trail through the Forest Exploration Center in Wauwatosa in May.





GREATER MILWAUKEE
INTERNATIONAL

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

EXECUTIVE AND OPERATING BOARD

Co-Presidents: Bob & Nancy Mitchell, 262.646.2842,
rjmitch1336@yahoo.com; mitchell.nancy@gmail.com

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

Secretary: Carole DeRoche, 414.421.7857,
carolederoche@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dorothy Krupa, 262.894.7076,
dorothykrupa@me.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

2021 AMBASSADOR/HOST COORDINATORS

Aug. 20-27— Connecticut, Inbound: Nancy Mitchell, *Host Coordinator*

2022-23 AMBASSADOR/HOST COORDINATORS

Tucson, AZ, Domestic Outbound: *Open Position*
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@imonmail.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

Please make these changes in your 2021 Membership Directory.

Gina & Steve DeSota have a new address:
N71 W35525 Mapleton Lake Dr.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-1213

Remove the home phone number for Beth and Peter Kealy.

Media Recommendations from Our Members

We are starting a new column called “Media Recommendations from Our Members.”

Here is your chance to share recommendations of a book, poem, movie, play or musical event, and why it would be of interest – just 2-3 sentences, starting with the name. We envision something that people could still read or see, not a review of a past event. Bob Mitchell shares the first recommendation:

While most of us know the general facts of the international slave trade, few are familiar with the business of slave-trading. **“The Ledger and the Chain”** is a readable history of the American entrepreneurial spirit applied to inhuman practices. You will understand more about our racial predicament by reading Joshua D. Rothman’s book.

Chris Vogel recommends the 2020 documentary **“My Octopus Teacher”** available on Netflix and winner of an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature. A filmmaker spends a year free diving in an underwater kelp forest off the South African coast, eventually forming a close bond with a young octopus. The underwater photography is stunning, and the octopus is presented as an intelligent and creative problem solver.

Please send your own recommendations, along with why you liked them, to Rosie Haas,
rmhaas1@gmail.com.