



friendship force

GREATER MILWAUKEE

a world of friends is a world of peace

MAY-JUNE 2023

www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org

president's message

Did you earn an A+ on your homework assignment from the last newsletter? You did *only* if you sent in a list of friends/relatives you think might be interested in joining us.

Soon, we'll email invitations to a June 21 gathering at the Kneeland-Walker House in Wauwatosa. We'll tell perspective members about our club, journeys we've taken and hosted, and our many activities. People can drop in any time from 5 to 8 p.m. for an introduction to FFGM and enjoy light refreshments.

But we don't yet have many people to invite.

Please don't wait: As names occur to you, let people know they'll be getting an invitation and then send their names and email addresses to Rosie Haas, rmhaas1@gmail.com.

And feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone who might like to learn what an active club we are!

As you read this newsletter, FFGM is hosting a "mini-journey" with nine members of the Quad Cities Friendship Force. And you'll notice a theme: the FFGM Activity Committee is focusing on neighborhoods to help us all get to know our surrounding communities better. For exam-

ple, Pewaukee Day is June 7, Manitowoc Day is July 16, and we may visit Mukwonago in August.

These special days include some of the things we like best about Friendship Force — a little history, looking at art, good food and getting together with each other.

When you finish reading, send in those names of potential members, and sign up right away for the Spring Fling on Wednesday, May 24, and Pewaukee Day on June 7.

One more thing on your to-do list: Please take a look at my.friendship-force.org, where you can learn about journeys with other clubs that are looking for additional ambassadors and about Special Journeys open to members worldwide.

You can also read about the new Individual Journey Program, which gives individuals an opportunity to host and to travel as individuals, in addition to Club-to-Club and Special journeys.

LAKESIDE FLING USHERS IN SPRING

Are you more than ready for this event delayed by nearly three years of COVID?

Let's gather on Wednesday, May 24, at Bass Bay Brewhouse on the shores of lovely Big Muskego Lake. You are welcome to come early and stroll the lakeside grounds. Social time will start at 4:30 p.m. with dinner served at 5:15 p.m.

Expect surprises and prizes!

The menu will be Bass Bay's "Little Italy" special meal: spaghetti, sauce, handmade meatballs, Caesar salad and garlic bread. Dessert will be cookies or bars.

Reserve your place by sending a check for \$25 made out to FFGM to Cris Reischl at 7163 Horizon Dr., Greendale, WI 53129 so that it arrives by May 15.

Bass Bay Brewhouse is at S79 W15851 AudMar Dr. in Muskego. We will be in a private room called the Parlor. Entrance is right off the parking lot. Enter where it says AudMar Banquet Hall.

EXPLORE PEWAUKEE

Do you know who was the first white settler in Pewaukee in 1837? What restaurant was established in 1929 by two Yugoslavian immigrants and has thrived with four generations of family ownership? Learn these answers and much more on Wednesday, June 7.

See **PEWAUKEE DAY**, page 3



Chris Vogel

at a glance

4/22 Tour Venerable Fire Collection, 4349 Hillside Road, Slinger, 11:30 a.m. \$10. R.S.V.P. to Ann Line, 262-784-3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com by April 19.

5/5 5th at 5 hosted by Nancy Rubly, 16065 Cumberland Trail Dr., Brookfield, 262.860.0777, or njrubly@gmail.com.

5/10 Book Club, 1:30 p.m. via Zoom. *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman.

5/16 W.H.E.T., 1:30 p.m., Hidden Lake Park, 2865 Lilly Road, Brookfield. R.S.V.P. to Ann Line, 262-784-3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com.

5/24 Spring Fling, 4:30 p.m., Bass Bay Brewhouse, S79 W15851 Aud-Mar Dr. in Muskego. \$25. R.S.V.P. by 5/15 to Cris Reischl, 7163 Horizon Dr., Greendale, WI 53129.

6/5 5th at 5 Hosts Chris and Dave Vogel, 2039 Pleasant St., Wauwatsa. R.S.V.P. 414.412.7721 or cvogel@wi.rr.com.

6/7 Pewaukee Day. Meet at 1 p.m. at Clark House Museum, 206 E. Wisconsin Ave., Pewaukee. Lunch 2:30 p.m. at The Five O'Clock Club, N28 W26658 Peterson Dr.

6/12 FFGM Board meeting, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

6/23 W.H.E.T. 1:30 p.m. Meet at La Reve, 7610 Harwood Ave., Wauwatosa. R.S.V.P. to Ann Line, 262.784.3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com.

5th at 5

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

May 5: Nancy Rubly will host the May "Cinco de Mayo" 5th at 5 with margaritas. Call 262.860.0777 or email njrubly@gmail.com if you'll be attending. Please bring a taco filling.

June 5: Chris and Dave Vogel, 2039 Pleasant St., Wauwatosa, 414.412.7721 or cvogel@wi.rr.com.

July: No 5th at 5 due to the holiday.

Hosts are needed for August, October, November and December. 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 gathering. 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 include:

May 10: *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman (Sweden). The facilitator is Mary Hauser.

July 12: *The Art of Hearing Heartbeats* by Jan-Philipp Sendker (Burma). The facilitator will be Ann Line.

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.

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.

VENERABLE FIRE COLLECTION

Join your FFGM friends on a guided 90-minute tour of the Venerable Fire Collection at 4349 Hillside Road, Slinger, at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 22.

We'll see many examples of hand-drawn, horse-drawn and motorized fire apparatus, some dating back to 1876. There will also be a demonstration of a turn-of-the-century fire alarm telegraph system.

The tour, open only to FFGM members and their guests, will cost \$10. You can pay at the door the day of the tour, but you need to notify Ann Line at 262-784-3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com that you are coming by April 19. If there aren't enough participants, the tour will be cancelled. Carpooling can be arranged.

After the tour, those who wish can go to lunch at MJ Stevens, nearby at 5260 Aurora Rd. You will order and pay individually.

IT'S W.H.E.T. WEATHER AT LAST

W.H.E.T. has been hibernating for a few months, but it's ready to be resurrected! In case you've forgotten, W.H.E.T. stands for Walking, Hiking, Eating, Talking. We'll get a little exercise, have a bite to eat, and get to know one another better by talking as we walk and hike.

The first W.H.E.T. of 2023 will take place at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16 at Hidden Lake Park located at 2865 Lilly Road (between Burleigh and North Avenue) in Brookfield, on the east side of the road. There is a parking lot, and the path is paved. Hidden Lake is a 35-acre lake where a quarry used to be. Afterwards we will go for frozen custard at Murf's, nearby at 12505 W. Burleigh Rd.

The year's second W.H.E.T. will start at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, June 23 in front of Le Reve restaurant at 7610 Harwood Ave., Wauwatosa. We will walk along the Menomonee River Parkway and then end back in the village, where you can nibble treats from Le Reve, Tabal Chocolate, Black Twig Bakery or Niemann's Chocolate and Ice Cream.

Do come and participate in these hikes. They are not strenuous and there is a reward at the end! Please let Ann Line (262-784-3085 or linerusy@yahoo.com) know if you are coming so we know to look out

COMING JULY 16th: MANITOWOC DAY

As part of our 2023 focus on learning more about our local history and culture, we plan to spend Sunday, July 16, in Manitowoc.

We will begin the day at 11 a.m. with a tour at the Rahr-West Art Museum. This small museum boasts more than 150 years of art history within one gallery. We'll spend the rest of the day along the Lake Michigan shore: the Wisconsin Maritime museum, the Manitowoc North Breakwater light house, and the sand sculpting festival at Red Arrow beach.

More details will be forthcoming, but put this great event on your calendar now! Car-pooling can be arranged.

SAVE JULY 10: FFGM ANNUAL PICNIC

The annual FFGM Picnic will be Monday, July 10 in at Mitchell Park (South Pavilion) in Brookfield, where it was held last year.

We will start gathering at 4:30 p.m., and dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m.

Watch your email and the next newsletter for details.



Clark House Museum in Pewaukee

PEWAUKEE DAY, *from page 1*

At 1 p.m., we will tour the Clark House Museum (above), 206 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Pewaukee. Free street parking is available. A suggested donation to the Pewaukee Historical Society of \$3 can be made that day.

Lunch will follow at 2:30 p.m. at The Five O'Clock Club, a well-known supper club with a view of Pewaukee Lake. The restaurant, at N28 W26658 Peterson Dr., offers a delicious homestyle menu of soups, salads, and sandwiches. Plan to order off the menu and pay on your own.

After lunch, take an optional stroll to Pewaukee Beach. Satisfy your sweet tooth with an ice cream treat at The Chocolate Factory, directly across from the beach.

R.S.V.P. to Gayle Best, at 262.790.9221, by June 1 so she can arrange reservations at the museum and restaurant.



FEBRUARY FUNSHINE



With desert hiking (and wild burro sightings!), plenty of Native American art and culture, great food, excellent music and fascinating history — and, especially, warm and friendly hosts — a February journey to Sun City, Arizona was a welcome respite from cold and snow. Ten FFGM ambassadors plus two members each from the Madison and Chicago clubs and a woman from Santa Barbara, CA, visited FF of Central Arizona. Among the highlights: the Music Instrument Museum in Scottsdale, the Heard Museum with the world hoop dancing competition in Phoenix, a former Indian boarding school, dinner and music at Barleen's, hiking in the White Tank Mountains and around the Lake Pleasant reservoir, and lots of sunshine.



By Bob

OUR GENEROSITY CONTINUES TO HELP UKRAINIAN PHYSICIAN

By Bob Blazich, Open World Host

This past October, FFGM hosted a group of Ukrainian “transfusiologists” and blood supply professionals through the Open World Program funded by the U.S. Congress. One of the delegates was Dr. Olena Malygon, who works with the blood center in Kharkiv. Her city, in the northeastern part of Ukraine, was heavily bombed during the early days of the war.

Olena’s home was destroyed and her blood center heavily damaged. Since February 2022, she and her husband, Ivan, above, have lived and worked in the basement of the blood center. They stayed warm with a donated wood-burning stove and donated wood.

Thanks to the generosity of members of FFGM and others, we gave Olena \$8,266 with no strings attached. The money was hers to use as she wanted.

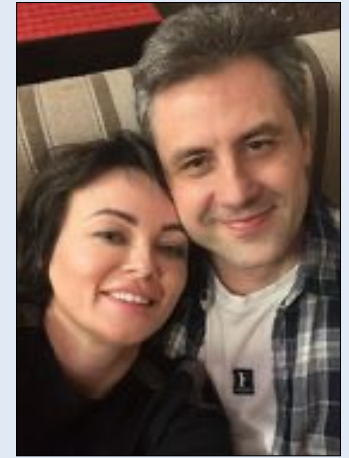
I have stayed in touch with Olena 2-3 times each week. Her messages are always positive ... even when

she posts videos of incoming drones. She is one of the bravest and strongest people I have ever met. At dinner one night, she said, “The future of my country is more important than my life.”

One of her most recent messages was, “*The grass is so beautiful*

It's already spring, it's warm and sometimes it rains. The main thing is that we survived winter and soon we will be living under a peaceful sky.”

If you would like to follow Olena and her work, she is on Facebook as Olena Malygon (Олена Малигон). She speaks no English, but we communicate thanks to Google Translate. Olena’s email is e.malygon@ukr.net.



Olena and Ivan



PEEPS, PEEPS, HURRAY!

About 20 members and potential members enjoyed the Annual International Peeps Competition, as well as somewhat higher classed art, at the Racine Art Museum on April 5. At right, Nancy and Jim Bowen admire Peeps creations. Above, lunch followed at the nearby Maple Table restaurant.





friendship force

GREATER MILWAUKEE

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, 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 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, jbfdl@yahoo.com
FFGM Store: Position open
Newsletter: Rosie Haas, Chris Vogel, Dave Kalan, Ann Line

2022-23 AMBASSADOR/HOST COORDINATORS

- Phoenix, AZ Inbound: Chris Vogel, AC
 Quad-Cities Inbound: Nancy Rubly, HC
 Toulouse, France International Inbound: Ann Line, HC
 Asheville, NC Inbound: Clarine Furey, 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
FFI fax: 1.404.688.6148
FFI address: 279 W. Crogan St., Lawrenceville, GA 30046

new member profile

MEET MARY CIMBALNIK

I am a retired Special Education Director who has traveled to Europe, Iceland and Alaska.

Having known several friends who are FF members, I am looking forward to becoming more active with the club.

I am an animal lover and am interested in all things that can be done to help our environment. I have volunteered for education organizations and enjoy gardening, cooking, reading and outings with friends.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

After volunteering at Depensa de la Paz food pantry on the southside of Milwaukee several times, a group of us have decided we really like this volunteer activity and have decided to make this one of our long-term volunteer events.

They need 20 volunteers each Saturday morning, and the slots fill up fast. We don't need to volunteer as a group but you can sign up on-line when it is convenient with your schedule. You will probably see someone from our club. Contact Dave Kalan at dakalan@yahoo.com if you want more details.

For our PBJ (peanut butter and jelly sandwich) project for the homeless, we are scheduling into September and October for new volunteers. Contact Dave if you are interested.

If you have a volunteer project that you're passionate about and think would interest our members, contact Dave, who can guide you on how you can lead that project for our club.

SAVE SENDIK'S BAGS

Do you shop at Sendik's or have friends who shop there? Please save your Sendik's bags and bring them to a club event, where they'll be collected for Despensa de La Paz at 1615 S. 22 St., Milwaukee. The food pantry uses these durable bags to hold produce, soup and other items for shoppers.