



friendship force

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

Experience Different Views. Discover Common Ground.



September - October, 2020

www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org

President's Message



Ann Line, President

Here's hoping you are all doing well and keeping busy in these different times. I am thinking of you and hope you are thinking of Friendship Force. FFGM is not forgetting you. One of the Board members will be calling you again in the near future, just to check on how you are doing. Please know that you are remembered and valued.

GRATITUDE: You can never say thanks enough if you do it sincerely. A huge thank you goes to Rosie Haas and Carole DeRoche for putting this newsletter together while Doris Mueller recuperates from a bad case of the shingles. Without their help you would not be reading this now. Thank you also to Sue Pack for letting FFGM use her paid Zoom link all the time. Thanks, Sue, for doing the Indian cooking demonstration too. Thank you to all the 5th at 5 hosts, especially the August hosts (Dave Kalan, the Harmelink's, and the Geck's) for three regional sites. Thanks also to the Trivia Evening question composers: Bob Mitchell, Sue Pack, Kathy Luglio, and Amy Bley. Thank you to the FFGM Book Club hosts. Charlotte Ann Button also deserves a lot of thanks for her ten years of service as FFGM Store Chair. Thank you to FFGM Board Members for your work and advice. Thank you to all FFGM members for your support.

INVOLVEMENT: Of course, I need to mention my favorite word! Many members have stepped up to the plate to help our organization

transition to do things a bit differently during Covid-19. There still are more opportunities for you to get involved. FFGM is looking for someone to serve as Sunshine Chair to send cards to members who are ill or have lost loved ones. There is also an opening for FFGM Store Chair as Charlotte Ann Button is retiring from this position. We will also be compiling a Driving List to assist those members who no longer drive. Please see elsewhere in the newsletter for further details. *(President's letter continued on page 7)*

Calendar of Events Update

The 5th at 5 events: always will be on the 5th of each month, except July.

- 08/25..... Trivia #3 via Zoom
- 09/05 5th at 5, Nancy Rubly's Home
- 09/09 Book Club, "Next Year in Havana" (Cuba)- Nancy Rubly.
- 10/05 5th at 5, Doris Small's home
- 10/05 Board Meeting
- 11/05 5th at 5, Michelle and Norm Humitz's home
- 11/11 Book Club, "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" (Hmong)-Mary Hauser
- 12/05 5th at 5, Valentinelli's
- 12/07 Board Meeting

2021 Tentative

- March or November Tucson Outbound
- May or September Karsiyaka, Turkey Outbound
- Fall Connecticut Inbound

We know there are travel concerns due to the Virus situation. We have scheduled journeys for 2021 which are currently tentative. No plans have been made or coordinators assigned. If you have questions, contact Ann Line

FFGM Annual Dinner Meeting and Elections Update

Date to be determined based on Covid-19 status.
We'll keep you informed of the arrangements by email
as soon as we have information to share.

Fifth at Five Events

We have 5th at 5 meetings scheduled at member homes for the balance of 2020. These could change depending on the virus situation.

You will need to reserve ahead of time by contacting the host. Please bring your own snack and wear a mask. September 5th will likely be outdoors, so bring a chair.

Questions: contact Barbara Geck at 262-542-2960 or barbarafrancesgeck@gmail.com.

Sept. 5 Host: Nancy Rubly, 262-860-0777, njrubly@gmail.com
16055 Cumberland Trail Dr., Brookfield, WI 53005 (NEW ADDRESS)

Oct. 5 Host: Doris Small, 262-542-1629, dorissmall3269@sbcglobal.net 1932 Cliff
Alex Ct., North, Waukesha, WI 53189

Nov. 5 Host: Michelle and Norm Humitz, 414-416-1107,
hello.its.me.michelle@gmail.com
3811 Turnwood Dr., Richfield, WI 53076

Dec. 5 Host: Helen Valentinelli, 262-544-6840, nhvalentinelli@wi.rr.com
W222 N2609 Glenwood Lane, Springdale Estates off Springdale Rd
Waukesha, WI 53186

AUGUST 5TH AT 5



The August 5th at 5 meetings were hosted locally: Dave Kalan, Sara and Dale Harmelink, and Barbara and Joe Geck. This worked well and a good time was had by those who attended. FFGM's oldest member, 94 year old Gen Brunhoffer, attended the 5th at 5 at Dave Kalan's.



Looking to Get Involved?

Take your pick!

We have TWO positions hoping to be filled. Neither will take a lot of your time, but both are important to the functioning of FFGM. Please seriously consider volunteering to do one of these positions.

FFGM SUNSHINE CHAIR



This new position will be in charge of sending cards on behalf of FFGM to members who are ill or are hospitalized, have lost a loved one, or whatever else may occur. FFGM will reimburse for all postage and cards. This position is even more important now in these difficult times. Help make someone feel FFGM is thinking of them. Please contact Ann Line if you are interested.



FFGM STORE CHAIR

Did you know that FFGM has a store?

When you host or travel, we have items such as FFGM and Milwaukee pins, magnets, pens, and pictorial booklets available that members are able to purchase to give to one's ambassador or host family. Charlotte Ann Button is retiring from the Store after ten years and will be happy to work with you as we transition to a new Store chair. Please contact Ann Line if you are interested.

Thank you, Charlotte
We really appreciate your devotion and support for FFGM and the "Store."

FFGM Driving List

It has come to our attention that some of our older members need transportation to FFGM events.



Some are reluctant to call and inconvenience others, so let's make this easy for them. Right now with Covid-19 there is less of a need, but activities such as 5th at 5, Book Club, and the Annual Meeting are examples of need now. If you are willing to pick up and drive home any member needing a ride to a FFGM event, please contact Ann Line so we can compile a FFGM Driving List.



Virtual Travel

Check our Friendship Force Virtual Experiences hosted by FFI Members and Staff on the FFI website <https://blog.friendshipforce.org/virtual-experiences/>. This is a great way to stay in touch with friends through virtual Journey webinars, trainings and social opportunities. You can sign up for an upcoming event or view one that has been recorded. It's a fun way to virtually travel! **Check it out!**

FFGM Trivia Evening #3

Tuesday, August 25 at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom

Join your FFGM friends for Trivia Evening #3 on August 25. No need to social distance. It's on Zoom. Kathy Luglio and Amy Bley are preparing the questions this time. Questions will cover various categories. A Zoom link will be sent closer to the date. Download Zoom if you haven't already and join us for a fun evening.

*****CONGRATULATIONS***** to the winner of Trivia Evening #1: Bob Mitchell and to the winner of Trivia Evening #2: Ann Line! You could be the winner of Trivia Evening #3 and get your name published in the next newsletter. Wow!



Renewal of Dues

Thanks to Treasurer Dorothy Krupa, we have a new Quick-Books system. You will receive the invoice for the 2021 Dues via email on October 1. Payment options will be explained in the email.

We realize that there has been a decrease in the number activities and journeys have been cancelled because of Covid-19. We plan to resume the full range of local activities and travel as soon as we can do that safely. In light of this, we are waiving the FFGM portion of the annual dues. 2021 dues will be \$20 per person (\$40 for family). If you choose to receive the newsletter via mail the cost remains at \$10. **Please stay with us and renew your membership.**

Watch for this email sometime on October 1.

Welcome

New Member – Ruthanne Hoppe



I grew up on the Jersey Shore then decided to go to college at Florida Institute of Technology to escape the cold (then landed in Wisconsin?). Bill and I got married and spent his Naval career at eight different duty stations: California, Bermuda, Pensacola, Colorado, Hawaii, Adak Alaska, Virginia, and Nevada. We moved to Wisconsin in 1994 when he took a civilian job. No, had never been here before, but we had never been to those other places either, so why not! I taught math at various schools and colleges and continue to tutor privately. I have three sons. They and their families (six grands ages 1-10) live in Cedarburg, Colorado and Minnesota. Bill and I liked to camp and bike trails around Wisconsin and beyond. Unfortunately, our plans for a larger camper and extended travels ended in March 2019 when Bill died while we were on a Florida trip. In October 2019 I met the Mitchells while in the Baltimore airport! They knew my son, Kyle, thru Servas but not me (that's a story). They introduced me to Friendship Force and I am looking forward to adventures with this great group!

FFGM Picnic – “We had lots of fun!”

Twenty-three people weren't scared to show up for an evening of frighteningly fantastic fun at the Halloween-themed FFGM Annual Picnic on August 11 in Wirth Park in Brookfield. Even King Arthur, a flapper, and a pirate came looking for trick n' treats! Others sported orange and black attire. Masks were worn both for Covid-19 and for Halloween.

It was quite the difference from last year's picnic with 95 attendees, wonderful BBQ, and scorching heat. Do you remember? This year we brought our own food but FFGM provided treats and beverages. There were Halloween activity stations set up with Halloween word games and guessing games to win even more treats. There were also Halloween jokes and trivia plus extensive Halloween decorations. No magic potions and no black cats!



Dorothy Kelley, Jack Bridich, Gen Brunhoefer, Cris Reischl, Chris Vogel (left to right)



Chris Vogel & Nancy Rubly
Veronica Artus & friend



Bonnie Fredrickson
Clarine Furey
JoAnne Behling



Helen Valentinelli and friend Margaret



Agnes Rusy



FFGM Book Club



On September 9 at 1:30 p.m. we will meet at the home of Nancy Rubly outside in her back yard. Please note that Nancy has moved. Her new address is 16065 Cumberland Trail Dr. in Brookfield. R.S.V.P. to Nancy at 262-860-0777 or [njrubly@gmail.com](mailto:njrubby@gmail.com). The book is "Next Year in Havana" (Cuba) by Chanel Cleeton. Please bring a lawn chair, a mask, and your own beverage. The next book is "The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down" (Hmong) by Anne Fadiman. It will be on November 11 at the home of Mary Hauser.

FFGM Executive and Operating Board

President	Ann Line	262-784-3085.....	linerusy@yahoo.com
Co-Vice-Presidents	Bob & Nancy Mitchell	262-646-2842.....	rjmitch@execpc.com
Secretary	Carole DeRoche	414-421-7857.....	carolederoche@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dorothy Krupa	262-894-7076.....	dorothykrupa@me.com
Ex-President & Membership.....	Sara Harmelink	414-355-4676.....	hlinkds@gmail.com
Activities Co-Chairpersons	Mary Hauser.....	414-466-5688.....	mhauser2012@att.net
	Ann Line.....	262-784-3085.....	linerusy@yahoo.com
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	Donna Baldwin-Haut	414-550-4450.....	djhaut2006@sbcglobal.net
5 th 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	Charlotte Button	262-835-4124.....	ca_b@msn.com

COORDINATORS: HC = HOST COORDINATOR, AC = JOURNEY COORDINATOR

2021

Tucson, AZ, Outbound, Domestic.....	Open.....
Karsigaka, Turkey, Outbound, International	Open.....
FF-Connecticut, Inbound, Domestic	Open.....

WEBSITES & CONTACT INFORMATION

Midwest Regional FFI Rep.	Dale Moore	mooredale@imonmail.com
Friendship Force of Greater Milwaukee Websites:	www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org	
	(Also under Wisconsin clubs on FFI website)www.friendshipforce.org	
FFGM on Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/groups/129406703803635/	
Friendship Force International	1-800-554-6715	FFI@thefriendshipforce.org
FFI website	FAX 1-404-688-6148	www.friendshipforce.org
FFI NEW mailing address	279 Crogan St., Lawrenceville GA 30046	

Note: For inbound journeys, the title is HC, (host coordinator), and for outbound journeys the title is AC, (ambassador coordinator).

(President's Letter continued from page 1)

Don't neglect to check out the new FFI blog at: blog.friendshipforce.org/virtual-experiences/ There are some really good things there. We have to travel vicariously for now.

Please read the notice in this newsletter concerning FFGM dues for 2021. They will be collected differently this year and you will receive an email in October from FFGM Treasurer Dorothy Krupa with all the details. As a gesture of goodwill and in recognition of the absence of opportunities to participate in Friendship Force journeys, the FFGM Board has voted to reduce dues for 2021. We encourage you to support us by renewing your membership.

It was great actually seeing FFGM members in person at the Halloween-themed Annual Picnic. I look forward to the time when we no longer need to meet on Zoom. We can and need to connect, even though it may not be in person. Reach out and call another FFGM member. I'll keep coming back with my "Keep

in Touch" emails. In the meantime, join us for Trivia Evening #3, Book Club, or 5th at 5.

Friendship Force is here for you. Friendship Force cares. Thank you for your friendship.

Membership

Doris Mueller continues to recover at home after a bad case of Shingles. I'm sure she would like to hear from you. Doris' phone number is 414-778-1108; email is calldmm@gmail.com.

Email correction:
Linda Mort RN2905@yahoo.com

New Address:
Nancy Rubly
16065 Cumberland Trail Dr
Brookfield WI 53005-2261

NEWS FROM FFI: THE FRIENDSHIP CONNECTION - 4TH ISSUE

You should have received an email the week of August 17th from FFI with the The Friendship Connection: 4th Issue. This issue has topics including:

- Gaining and Keeping a Global Perspective
- 2020 Pen Pals Initiative Guidelines with Translations
- Upcoming Friendship Force Virtual Experiences

FFI is taking steps to keep us connected and informed. Check out some of the Global Resources for another perspective on world news. Establish a Pen Pal. Take a virtual journey on the Virtual Experiences Blog link.

The Friendship Force of Greater Milwaukee
Ann Line, President
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If undeliverable, return to sender.

For details about Friendship Force, see
our website at www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org

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