



friendship force

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



Experience Different Views. Discover Common Ground.

MARCH-APRIL 2021

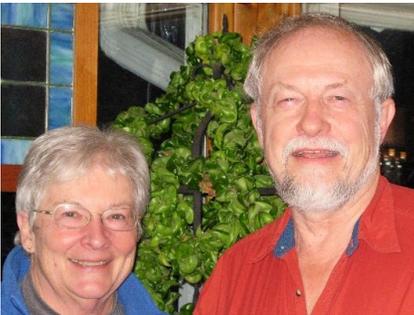
www.friendshipforcemilwaukee.org

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Nancy and Bob Mitchell
Co-Presidents

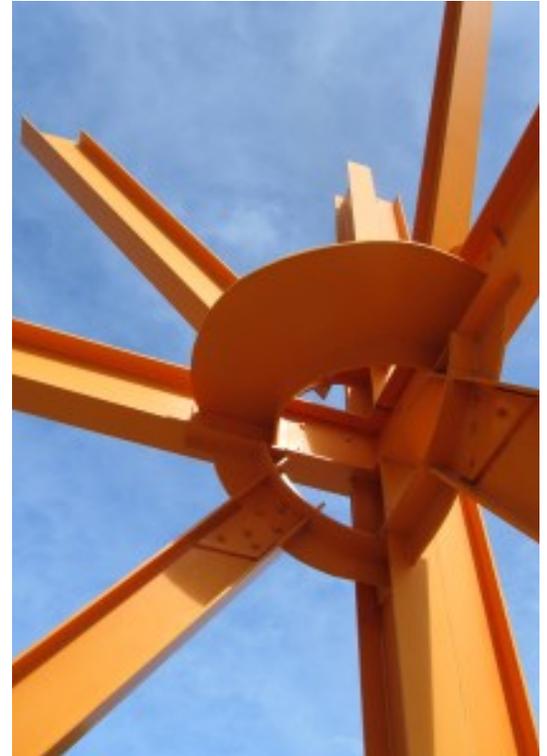
By the time you read this, the February Freeze will be just an unpleasant memory. We're all eager to get out and about, and as a club we wish we could do more socializing. While the pandemic continues to run its course, indoor gatherings will not be scheduled. However, plans are underway to meet to snowshoe (before the snow melts) or at least do some group walks on cleared paths — appropriately distanced.

Meanwhile, we have no choice but to hold meetings and offer diversions via Zoom. Besides our club's own trivia nights, we are proposing to have a trivia night with other clubs in the region. We hope to get FF members from Northern Illinois, Madison and Minneapolis-St. Paul to join our regulars some evening. We will use breakout rooms, which will mix up the participants so you can make new friends and renew old acquaintances. You will play as a team, which is more fun than trying to answer questions on your own.



We would like our members to contribute, virtually by Zoom, with book recommendations, poems, prized possessions or pictures, favorite places in the area, etc. Ideally, you all will get your own basic Zoom account so you can play host. (Go to [www. Zoom.us](http://www.Zoom.us) and sign up. It's free.) Then, watch demonstrations on YouTube to see how easy it is. If you need help, Sue Pack or Bob Mitchell will be glad to help. Start off small with a few invitees and then invite the whole club. But why not invite your friends and neighbors who are not FFGM members to view your presentation and learn about the club?

FFI would like all clubs to produce their own Virtual Experience showcasing the club. We think it would be a fun activity to work together to produce something that could be featured on the FFI website. Would you like to participate?



"The Calling," a sculpture by Mark di Suvero at O'Donnell Park in Milwaukee.

PUBLIC ART:

WHAT'S YOUR OPINION?

Who remembers the acrimony over the proposed "Blue Shirt" sculpture at the airport? What do you think of "The Calling?" What do Confederate memorials actually represent?

Bob Mitchell will offer some insights in a Zoom talk on "Controversies in Public Sculpture" at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 12. A Zoom invitation will be sent to all.

AT A GLANCE

3/05: 5th at 5, via Zoom

3/10: Book Club. "40 Autumns" by Nina Willner (Germany) via Zoom

3/12: Controversial Sculptures, Zoom presentation by Bob Mitchell

3/16: Trivia Evening #9 via Zoom

3/19: Snowshoeing

4/05: 5th at 5, via Zoom

4/12: Board Meeting, via Zoom.

TENTATIVE

Summer: Connecticut Inbound

September: Karsiyaka (Izmir), Turkey Outbound

October: Toulouse, France Inbound

March 2022: Tucson Outbound

Because of the pandemic, 2021 journeys are tentative. No plans have been made or coordinators assigned. If you have questions, contact Bob or Nancy Mitchell.

SUNDAY HIKES

Clarine Furey, FFGM community connections chair, has had contact with "Vagabonds." Every Sunday "Vagabonds" has hiking opportunities in the Milwaukee metro area. Please contact Clarine at 262.993.8050 for details.

LET'S GO SNOWSHOEING!

2 P.M. FRIDAY, MARCH 19

MEQUON NATURE PRESERVE 8200 W. County Line Road

Tired of being indoors? Looking for some good exercise?

How about going snowshoeing with your FFGM friends? Whether you have snowshoed before or not, consider giving it a try. If you can walk, you can snowshoe. It's perfect for social distancing.



No snowshoes? No problem! The Mequon Nature Preserve has free snowshoe "rental." Snowshoes must be reserved in advance. You must contact Ann Line at linerusy@yahoo.com or 262.784.3085 so she can make a group reservation. This needs to be done by March 17 at the latest.

Mequon Nature Preserve does not have poles to lend. If you want to use poles, you will need to bring your own. Poles are not necessary in order to snowshoe. Some people like

them to help with balance.

What to wear? No special equipment or clothes! Dress in layers and wear warm socks. You can just wear regular snow boots to keep you dry.

Please consider joining us whether you have snowshoed or not. We will help each other so everyone has an enjoyable experience.

5TH AT 5

The winter cold and snow continues, so the 5th at 5 events for the foreseeable future will be via Zoom. Our Snowbirds can join us too via Zoom. The link will be sent closer to the date.

Themes: How are you handling winter? How is the pandemic affecting you? Did you get your vaccine?

When? On the 5th! 5 p.m. on Friday, March 5, and Monday, April 5.

TRIVIA EVENING

Tune in on Zoom for Trivia Evening #9 at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 16. You could be the next winner and get your name in the FFGM newsletter! Winner of

Trivia Evening # 8 was Ann Line. Second place was Marisue Zillig.

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

BOOK CLUB

Until further notice our book club meetings will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Zoom, and the information on accessing the Zoom session will be provided a day or two before the meeting. Each session 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:

March 10: *40 Autumns*, by Nina Willner (Germany)

May 12: *The Man Who Loved China* by Simon Winchester (China)

July 14: *Portrait of a Turkish Family* by Orfan Orga (Turkey)

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

Doris Mueller dedicated her life to peace, friendship

FFGM newsletter editor and longtime member extraordinaire **Doris Mueller** passed away December 27 at age 85.

As a member for more than 25 years, Doris served on the board of directors most of that time managing the club's website, newsletter, Facebook page and club communications.

In addition, she served as president, vice president and membership chair.

In 2017, the club honored Doris with the Wayne Smith Medal for outstanding leadership in guiding the club to new heights.

Doris loved to travel and, as longtime friend Vicki Vance noted, "Doris was a lovely, vibrant lady full of enthusiasm and passion for her many interests in life. I knew her through Friendship Force International where she spent years dedicating herself to international peace and friendship."



Doris Mueller

"She always had a smile and was willing to take on a challenge," said friend Nancy Bowen.

She enjoyed hosting and traveling with friends throughout the world, was an inspiration to our club and promoted Friendship Force wherever she went.

Doris is survived by sons Dean and Marc Mueller, their spouses and five grandchildren.

"Her death leaves a significant void in our club and an ache in our hearts," said Donna Baldwin-Haut, a longtime friend.

The family plans a celebration of Doris' life in fall.

Other recent FFGM losses

Don Peters, husband of Terry Peters and longtime active members, died from COVID complications in December.

Suzan Hester, a longtime member, died in January.

Joe Shaw, husband of Camille Shaw, previous members, died in February.



friendship force
GREATER MILWAUKEE

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@ya-
hoo.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.r-
r.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, Carol DeRoche, Chris Vogel, Dave
Kalan, Ann Line.

2021 JOURNEY/HOST COORDINATORS

Karsiyaka, Turkey: Outbound, International open position
Toulouse, France: Inbound, International: Ann Line
Connecticut, Inbound, Domestic: open position

2022 JOURNEY/HOST COORDINATORS

Tucson, AZ, Outbound, Domestic open position

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

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON SAFELY RESUMING JOURNEYS?

I'm sure you are eager for our Friendship Force journeys to resume. I love sharing culture through food, so I miss hosting dinner parties for our in-coming guests. I also enjoy seeing hosts and ambassadors share how we lead our lives and take joy that they have made friends in another part of the world.

Although we all want to get back to these special moments, we need to feel safe doing so. Please think about what guidelines our club needs to put in place so you feel safe participating as an inbound host, an outbound ambassador or a general member taking part in in-person club activities.

Several of us (Dave Kalan, Rosie Haas, Chris Vogel) will be contacting some recent hosts and ambassadors to ask for their ideas. However, we welcome all ideas. Please contact me at dakalan@yahoo.com if you want to share your opinion.

It is great that so many of you have renewed your membership because you believe in our mission. We now want to open our club for in-person activities in a responsible way so that you can participate with confidence.

VIRTUAL TRAVEL

FFI hosts interesting virtual experiences. Past events usually are recorded and posted for future viewing. Go to the FFI website: <https://blog.friendshipforce.org/virtual.experiences/>

HELP WANTED

With the death of Doris Mueller, we have lost our communicator, newsletter editor, webmaster and Facebook administrator. If you have some experience in any of these fields, especially Facebook administration, or are willing to learn, please contact Rosie Haas, rmhaas1@gmail.com.