



friendship force
DALLAS

March – April 2024 Newsletter

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FF-Dallas email address: friendshipforcedallas@yahoo.com Phone: 972-885-7264
Do not reply to the above email box, it is not monitored on a regular basis.



President's Note - Randy Tetzlaff

The next few months will be busy as our club prepares for our second international inbound journey since the pandemic. Unlike the journey from Japan, which was a stopover visit, this one will be for a week in April. Ambassadors from Calgary along with ambassadors from Central North Carolina and Toronto will be joining us. Many thanks to Patty Niemeyer, the Journey Coordinator as well as all who have agreed to be home hosts, day hosts and small dinner hosts.

We will have another inbound journey from Sarasota later this year. Please be generous if asked to help - make that journey memorable for the ambassadors.

I'd also like to give a big "WELCOME" to our new members who I hope will enjoy Friendship Force as much as I do.

FFI will be offering several orientations and training throughout the year that may be of interest to you. More information will be published in the FFI newsletter at https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/users/sign_in as well as in our future newsletters.

At our January meeting, I mentioned that if you have questions or concerns about our club or FFI, please don't hesitate to ask me or any board member. The same goes for ideas or suggestions; we want to hear from you.

I am so looking forward to an exciting and fun year and with the help of you all, I know it will be.

Randy Tetzlaff

President

NEW WEBSITE COMING!!

The Board of Directors is beta-testing and making final recommendations for the new website! Friendship Force Dallas will spring forward with the new location and format in March. More information coming directly to you very soon.

Meetings – Paula Rose

Friendship Force of Dallas
March Meeting

Date: Saturday, March 9, 2024
Time: 2 pm
Location: Forest Green Library
9619 Greenville Ave, Dallas 75243
Program: **Germany**
Presenter: Peggy Luippold

Meet FF friends
from Kiel, Germany



Optional Dinner: Primo Brothers Pizza
9310 Forest Ln #334, Dallas, TX 75243
214-341-4414
Salads, Sandwiches, Pasta, Pizza \$10-16
Bring your own wine if you wish

(This event is not sponsored by the Dallas Library)

2024 PROGRAMS & EVENTS SCHEDULE

GENERAL MEETINGS – (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov) on 2nd Saturdays at 2 pm at Forest Green Library, unless otherwise noted. Afterwards, we will go to a local restaurant for dinner and conversation.

THIRD THURSDAY GATHERINGS – (Feb, Aug, Oct) on 3rd Thursdays at local area restaurants. See FFD emails for locations & time.

LOCATIONS **Forest Green Library** - 9610 Greenville Ave, Dallas TX 75243

Zoom online meeting - details emailed prior to meeting

2024 PROGRAMS & EVENTS SCHEDULE CONT.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| March 9 | Northern Germany Music & Art
Peggy Luippold |
| April 14-21 | Inbound Activities for FF Calgary, Alberta, Canada
(Full details coming shortly to you via email!) |
| May 11 | Denali, Wittier, Seward, Anchorage, and Fairbanks Alaska
Ted Hillberg |
| June 8 | Small Group Dinners – Wanda Hoff, Coordinator |
| July 13 | Report on All USA to Cuba
edward perez, Paula Rose, Pat Moreno Fisher, Lou Ann King |
| August 15 : | Third Thursday and
Outbound Journey to Medicine Hat, Canada later in August |
| September 14 | China – Jian Li |
| October 17 | Inbound Activities for FF Sarasota, FL 3-Day Stopover |
| November 9 | Annual Business Meeting plus Columbia & Guatemala with Pat Moreno Fischer |
| December 8 | Holiday Party |

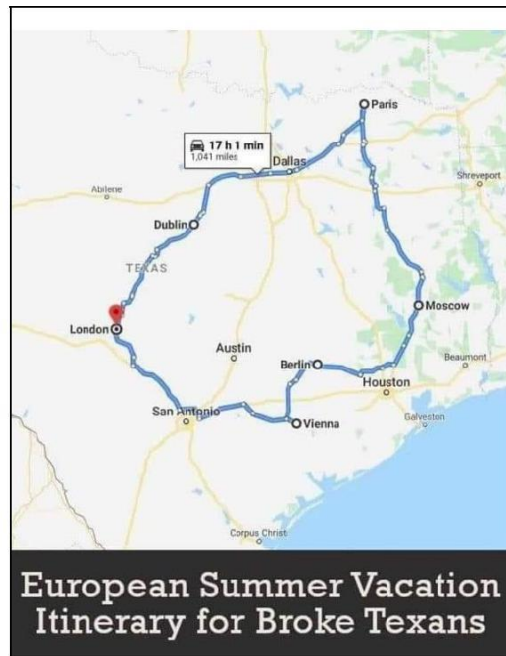
PAST FFD MEETINGS ONLINE

Want to "attend" or "re-attend" a past meeting?

If you have a computer, tablet, smartphone or smart TV, you can go to Friendship Force Dallas' YouTube webpage and view recordings of our prior meetings (click on "Videos" or "Playlists"). Each recording is about an hour long. You can always "rewind" or "fast forward" the video playback (contact edward perez for instructions).

.... FF Dallas' YouTube Channel is at <https://tinyurl.com/FFD-YouTubeChannel>

.... or search on <https://YouTube.com> for "FFDallas Texas" (INCLUDE the quotation marks! Otherwise, you'll get lots of Dallas TX videos)



MEMBERSHIP NEWS - _edward perez

Welcome to SPRING!! I'm thankful for our short Texas winter and am ready for more sun, spring flowers, and FF Dallas activities!!

With our inbound from Calgary coming up soon, there are many ways that you can contribute to FF Dallas. Contact Patty Niemeyer to help with the inbound journey team. Or contact any board member to contribute to any of the board committees. Or become an ambassador on an outbound journey organized by our club or any FFI club. But most of all, ATTEND our regular meetings and PARTICIPATE in our events! You'll learn about Dallas, our area, or some other part of the world, as well as your fellow members. All to further the cause of friendship and peace in our city and in the world!

edward perez, vp, membership

MEMBERSHIP INFO

Please extend your hand of friendship to our recent members when you see them at an upcoming meeting or event! Or give them a virtual wave via an email.

Pat Baudendistel (friend of Kathy Jacobs)

Tera Bounds (via Sandy Kaiser)

We now have 68 members (FFD members and Associates from other clubs) - the 2nd largest in our Southwest region (Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and Louisiana).

If you have not received your FFD 2024 Yearbook, let me know and I'll get a copy to you.

THANKS to the 39 FFD members who have signed up at <https://my.friendshipForce.org> (myFF.org)! If you haven't signed up, please do so in order to receive and view FFI news, info, and FAQs. For instructions on how to do so, contact me.

If you have any questions about your membership, FFD, or FFI, please contact me or any board member.

MEMBER MEETINGS

Our average attendance at monthly meetings is 30 members and guests. I encourage all members to attend in person (carpool w/ members in your area - see your 2024 yearbook for members by Zip Codes) or by Zoom meeting. For those who attend in person, we often go out for an early dinner - plenty of time to visit and learn about your fellow members.

I encourage you to invite your friends, members of groups/organizations you're in, and others to our meetings, gatherings, and events.

If you know of a group that we can give a presentation about FFI, let me or any board member know.

MEMBERSHIP CONNECTIONS

3rd Thursdays / Saturdays

17 FFD members attended our first 3rd Thursday of 2024 at the Havana Cafe (*muy sabroso!!*). We will be holding these lunch gatherings on the 3rd Thursday of every other month when we do not have a club meeting. These are smaller and more informal gatherings and a great way to meet & learn about other members. COME JOIN US for food and friendship!!

Have ideas for Membership Connections topics and/or locations ?

Some members have suggested holding a games night, wine tastings, field trips, and more. Know of a great restaurant for lunch or a great place we can visit for 3rd Thursday / Saturday?

If you'd like to volunteer to organize and/or host a gathering, field trip, picnic, tasting, etc., let me know so we can plan a Membership Connections event !!

***** FFI NORTH AMERICAN 2024 REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

FFI will hold a North American (Canada, USA, Mexico) conference in Milwaukee, WI October 7-9, 2024 (Mon-Wed). The conference will include plenary sessions, workshops, regional gatherings, and more.

FFI recently emailed info about the conference with information about registration, itinerary, excursions, hotels, etc. If you didn't receive a copy, let me know. Conferences are informative, fun, and a great opportunity to meet members of other FFI clubs.

FF-DALLAS JOURNEY NEWS

International and Domestic Journeys - Lou Ann King

Please consider helping as a home or day host or one of the other many activities that will be coming up!

International Inbound from Calgary, Canada - Patty Niemeyer, Apr. 14 - 21, 2024, plans almost complete. The member sign-up sheet will be sent to you via email very shortly.

International Outbound to Medicine Hat, Canada - Aurora Madrigal, Mid to late August, dates soon.

Domestic Inbound Stopover from Sarasota, Florida - Barb Taylor, October 14-17.

Other FFI Journeys by Our Members

Patti Pierce and Mary Williams traveled with the Fort Worth club to Sarasota, Florida Feb 1 - 6. Below are photos from their fabulous trip. Sarasota will be stopping by Dallas on October 14-17 when they journey to Ft. Worth.

“We were treated to an interpretation of the Ringling story and the circus business by ‘Mable Ringling,’ who inherited \$8M from her father and invested in property in Sarasota. She and her husband John developed and bought circuses all over the country. Interesting story.

The Journey with Fort Worth was short but very interesting and ambassadors were from all over. I never had a meal at my host's home - we had picnic lunches every day and were at someone's home every evening or at a restaurant or party.” For more information on the Ringling Museum see <https://www.ringling.org/>



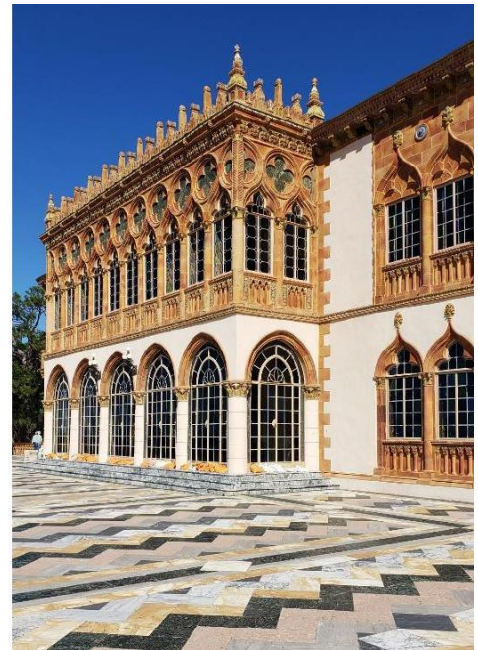
Diana Friedman (host), Mrs. Ringling, Patti Pierce, Mary Taylor from Oregon



Mrs. Ringling and Mary's host - Sue Elwyn



Band wagon from the Ringling Circus Museum



Ca D'Zan (House of John), the Ringling home

Are you traveling on FFI journeys this year? Please let Barb Taylor, our Newsletter Editor, know and we will add it to an upcoming newsletter. After you complete the journey, please send photos, stories, etc. – we would love to see where and with whome you went! It's the People, not just the Places.

TRAVEL & MEDICAL INSURANCE

For any FF journey (domestic, international, global), FFI policy on travel and medical insurance is "All Friendship Force ambassadors are required to secure adequate travel and medical insurance to cover emergencies during their Journeys." People can use their existing medical insurance (if it covers international or out of state travel), buy from a company of their choice, or buy an insurance policy from the FFI recommend insurance company (Nationwide, see <https://friendshipforce.org/trip-insurance-new/>).

Allison Lindsey recently wrote a great article about her experience w/ medical and travel insurance based on an accident she had just prior to the World Conference in Dubrovnik. It's available on myFF - <https://my.friendshipforce.org/en/blog/1621b9339c7a511d> If you don't have a myFF account, just let Edward Perez know and he'll send you a PDF copy.

Shuttle Rides

Shuttle Coordinator – Aurora Madrigal

For some of your traveling, or for running errands, remember, use our volunteer shuttle service (see page 45 in your yearbook). Make a new friend or learn about a friend's journey/trip during that ride to/from the airport. Send an email to ffdallas-shuttle@googlegroups.com with info on date, time, and place for pickup and/or drop-off. Want to become a shuttle driver? Send an email to Aurora Madrigal for more info.

2024 FF Dallas Board of Directors

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