



friendship force
MINNESOTA - TWIN CITIES



2020 FALL
NEWSLETTER

A Strange Year

by Jane Bardon, President

I've always liked to explore new things and new places, and to meet new people. 2020 has offered many new things, but instead of new people, I've learned to see familiar places more intensely, and to value family and old friends more than ever. The Club began the year with high expectations of exciting Journeys and hosting Friendship folks from fifteen states here in Minnesota. The next part was tough, as we cancelled our activities, one by one. Now we are wrapping up our Club's year with virtual meetings to hold our friendships fast and consider what the future of Friendship Force will be like. We will have our first virtual Annual General Membership Meeting on December 2. A new Board of Directors will take over on January 1. They will need your support and involvement to keep the Club as a vital force for peace and friendship. There will be new challenges and new technologies to learn. It may take more effort than in the past, but, trust me, it will be worth it.

IN THIS ISSUE

- **A Strange Year – Jane Bardon**
- **Fall Virtual Club Gathering – November 12, 7:00 PM via Zoom**
Speaker – Dale Moore, Midwest Regional Representative
- **2020 Virtual Annual General Membership Meeting**
Wednesday, December 2, 7:00 PM via Zoom
Keynote Speaker – Jeremi Snook, FFI President and CEO
- **Election Process for 2021 Club Officers**
- **2021 Club Officer Nominations – Rita Mays**
- **Open World Virtual Reunion – Tom Scott**
- **What You Need to Know about Zoom**
- **News from the Club Journey Director – Cindy Cauble**
- **FFMNTC Facebook Group**
- **Remembering: Mary McKenna 1923 – 2020**
- **Board of Directors Update – Jane Bardon**

Fall Virtual Club Gathering

Thursday, November 12, 7:00 PM via Zoom

- Looking Ahead: FF Clubs of the Future – Dale Moore, Midwest Regional Representative
- Looking Ahead: Journey to Taiwan 2021 – Cindy Cauble, FFMNTC Journey Director

This will be our first virtual meeting for all members. We will use the Zoom platform.

YOU WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL LINK TO THE ZOOM MEETING AND PROGRAM DETAILS PRIOR TO THE NOVEMBER 12 MEETING.

2020 Virtual Annual General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, December 2, 7:00 PM via Zoom

- Keynote Speaker – Jeremi Snook, FFI President and CEO
- Reports from 2020 Friendship Force of MN Twin Cities Board of Directors
- 2020 Don Wolter Award – Louise Anderson, Secretary
- Introduction of 2021 Officer Nominees and the Nominating Committee – Rita Mays, Nominating Committee Chair

This will be our first virtual Annual General Membership Meeting. We will use the Zoom platform.

YOU WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL LINK TO THE ZOOM MEETING AND A COMPLETE AGENDA PRIOR TO THE DECEMBER 2 ANNUAL MEETING.

Election Process for 2021 Club Officers

The FFMNTC Bylaws provide for the election of Club Officers for the coming year at the Annual General Membership Meeting which we have always held in conjunction with a holiday party in December. This year, we have to make some modifications:

- The 2020 Annual Meeting will be virtual using the Zoom platform.
- Officers will be introduced, but not elected at the 2020 Meeting.
- To assure we have a quorum of 35 members, actual voting will be by email ballot.
- Additional nominations “from the floor” can be made by any two members with the consent of the nominee. Send nominations to FFMinnesotaVP@yahoo.com by November 10.
- As our Bylaws provide, Life Members and Members who have paid their membership dues for 2020 will be eligible to vote.
- All eligible voters will receive a ballot by email to be submitted by email.
- Election results will be sent to the full email list.

If you have questions, contact Jane Bardon at FFMinnesotaVP@yahoo.com or 651-484-7989

Membership dues will be \$40 per person for 2021. \$20 goes to FFI and \$20 stays with our Club. The 2021 membership form will be emailed to you separately. We are in the process of adding an online payment option through the FFMNTC website.

2021 Club Officer Nominations

by Rita Mays, Board Director, Nominating Chair

The 2020 FFMNTC Nominating Committee presents the following candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer of Friendship Force Minnesota/Twin Cities for 2021. They will be elected by email ballot since an in-person Annual General Membership Meeting is not possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The elected officers will take office on January 1, 2021.

Thank you to Nominating Committee Members, Mary Cunningham, FFMNTC Member, and Barb Emer, FFMNTC Member.

President: Tom Scott

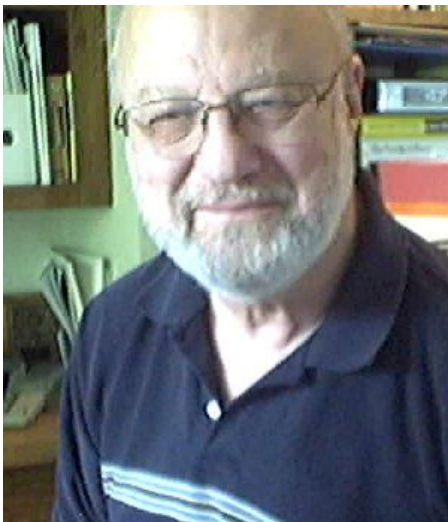
My wife Janet and I have been Friendship Force members since 2016. We have journeyed to Germany, Uganda, South Africa, Canada and New Zealand. I chaired the planning committee for the 2018 and 2019 Open World delegations from Ukraine hosted by the club. Janet and I also home hosted one of the delegates each year.

I have served on the Board for the last three years as secretary and as an at-large member. I am a mostly retired lawyer living in St. Paul. We have two children and three grandchildren all residing in south Minneapolis.

Friendship Force has been an incredibly enriching experience for Janet and I. Next year will be challenging, but I am confident that both our local club and the overall FFI organization will not only survive but emerge stronger from our virtual existence, and hopefully get back on the road again later next year and into 2022. Organizations like FFI can play a small but important part in knitting our physically isolated world back together. Peace.



Vice President: Max Harris (Incumbent)



I was born in Duluth and was a "navy brat" during WWII living in 4 different ports and returning to Duluth after the war. Five years later my family moved to Chicago where I finished high school and graduated from Roosevelt University with a degree in accounting. After 5 years in Public Accounting, I transitioned to retail auditing with Montgomery Wards. After a move to Ohio, I continued with SuperX Drugs, Federated Department Stores, and The Limited Stores. In 1978 I returned to MN to be a VP for County Seat Stores. Before retiring in 2003 I was an independent contractor auditing large retail companies.

I met my wife, Carole, a teacher, in Chicago. We have 3 children and 5 grandchildren. With FF we went to Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada and Banff, and Carole took our grandson to Japan in 2018 for the first International Youth Journey. I was on the planning committee and a driver for the Open World visit in 2019 and we hosted a Ukrainian delegate. I was elected FFMNTC VP in 2019.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Secretary: Louise Anderson (Incumbent)

Travel and participation in cultural exchanges has given me an appreciation of the complexities of the world and the depth of cultures. I believe that my community is your community and I am a citizen of the world. I have a deep conviction that we all live interdependently, and there is too much disparity between the rich and the poor in the world.

I first joined the Friendship Force in 1980 when I participated in an exchange to South Korea. As I pursued my social work career in the fields of mental health and aging, I was not active in the Friendship Force. I returned to the Friendship Force in 2010 and have served as Club President, Vice President, and Secretary. At this time, I also served on the Board of Directors of the USA chapter of the Council of International Fellowship, a program which promotes professional social work exchanges.



I presently have a private social work practice which focuses on supervision of clinical social workers. I am married and my husband, Godfrey Peterson, and I recently participated in Friendship Force journeys to Jordan, New Zealand, and Russia. I have hosted several times for the Open World program and with the FFI journey programs. We have two sons, a granddaughter, and a precious bichon-poodle dog.

Treasurer: Rose Emerick (Incumbent)



I have lived in MN all my life, and have a BS in Business/Accounting from the U of M. I have spent 40+ years in the financial services industry, the last 22 years of which were with US Bank, where I held positions in Accounting Management. In 2016, I retired as a Vice President in the Trust Services unit managing the organization's audit and compliance function. I work part time during the tax season for a small firm in Burnsville and have held volunteer treasurer positions when my children were in school. John Verby and I were married 3 years ago. We have both since retired, live in Burnsville, and have a combined family of 6 children and 3 grandchildren. My children were adopted as infants from Colombia, opening my heart to international adoption and families with children from Central and South America. We joined Friendship Force in December 2017 and hosted Open World Delegates from Ukraine in 2018 and 2019. We have enjoyed the host experience and getting to know Friendship Force members.

Open World Virtual Reunion

by Tom Scott, Board Director

On December 8, we have scheduled a virtual reunion with our 2018 health care Ukraine delegates. The online meeting will be from 10 AM to 11:30. There will be simultaneous interpretation. Open World will set up the meeting and provide the interpreter.

The primary focus of the meeting will be a reunion with our delegates to share what has been going on in their professional and personal lives since they were with us. There will also be a short presentation/ panel discussion of a relevant topic probably related to COVID-19. Ed Ehlinger will be participating.

If you are interested, contact Tom Scott at tscott1909@gmail.com or 612-804-4102

What You Need to Know about Zoom

by Cindy Cauble, Board Director

According to Zoom, the software is "the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, collaboration, chat, and webinars across mobile devices, desktops, telephones, and room systems."

Zoom is currently, being offered for free. It can be used with PC, Mac, iPad, tablet, iPhone or Android phone. You will need a camera and a mic to fully participate; check them before each meeting. The Host may mute meet all participants for some or all of a meeting. The screen can be divided to show all participants and the host. It also can show the host/speaker while displaying documents or videos.

If you don't have Zoom already installed on your device, you can click on a Zoom link and the Zoom application will be automatically installed on your device. This should work for the two upcoming FFMNTC Zoom membership meetings.

The link below, from the FFI website, will take you to an easy-to-follow YouTube tutorial on how to use Zoom: You can copy the link into your browser if needed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lt0-FYKaj0c>

If you need assistance with Zoom, I am available to help by calling me or sending me an email to arrange a time. I am not a technology expert but I do know what it's like to be a beginner.

Cindy Cauble: cindyc219@msn.com or home 952-920-6090.

News from the Club Journey Director

by Cindy Cauble, Journey Director

Lots of emails have still been flying even if we aren't.

- **2021 Outbound:** Our match with an outbound journey to Taipei, Taiwan is still on the table for November 2021. Taiwan has had very few cases of corona virus and they are back to normal. We will continue to monitor the situation and let you know when things are finalized.
- **2021 Inbound:** Our club made the decision to cancel any inbound journeys for this year.
- **2022 Inbound:** The good news is that Friendship Force Los Angeles is committed to re-scheduling their journey to the Twin Cities and a separate week with Winnipeg, Canada. This is set for late May or early June 2022 depending on which club they visit first.
- **2022 Outbound:** Our outbound journey choices for 2022 will be submitted to FFI after the poll of members is completed.

Watch for the Outbound Journey survey form in your email in the coming week.

Keep in touch with FFI

Even with a reduced and part-time staff, FFI is introducing new and innovative digital programs to keep members involved with each other, other clubs, and the world around us. This positive response to the COVID-19 pandemic offers a great resource for all of us now, and it's likely that many of these digital initiatives will continue when the current crisis subsides. Check out the FFI Virtual programs at:



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INTERNATIONAL

<https://www.thefriendshipforce.org/>

Friendship Force MN Twin Cities Facebook Group



Do you keep in touch with family and friends, your special interests and favorite organizations through Facebook? You can visit our FFMNTC Facebook Group for Club announcements, and news from FFI and other clubs. You can comment on the posts or create your own posts. If you are not on Facebook yet, you can create an account at: www.facebook.com.

Meet our Facebook Group moderator, Jan Lanyk. Jan has kept our Facebook Group up-to-date by posting announcements from FFI, and travel and destination news throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. This is valuable service during this long period of social distancing with too much space between each of us and our friends and loved ones.

Thank you, Jan

REMEMBERING

Mary McKenna 1923 – 2020

McKenna, Mary Elizabeth (nee John) passed away quietly in the presence of her family on August 1, 2020 at the age of 97 ½.

Born and raised in Browerville MN, Mary studied and practiced teaching at St Cloud State (career 1) before joining the U.S. Cadet Nurses program in World War II and serving in Washington, DC (career 2)

She met her beloved husband Peter J. McKenna Jr ("Pete") when he was a patient on her ward, and when they were married in June 1949, she began her 3rd and 4th careers as wife and mother.

Returning to Minnesota in 1951 the family lived first in Minneapolis and then Richfield, where, in her 5th career, they ran a Catholic gift store for 15 years. Mary launched her 6th and 7th careers as a published author and professional volunteer.

As a writer she got most of her inspiration from the large family that was buzzing all around her. As a volunteer she provided thousands of hours of pastoral care at Abbott Hospital; delivered Meals on Wheels; supported numerous activities at Assumption Church, including writing the definitive history of the parish, which she joined in 1954 and continued to sustain for more than 65 years; and served as a global ambassador for the Friendship Force, a people-to-people program launched by Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter, that brought her and Pete to a dozen countries throughout the world.

Over her long life she has met Presidents, Kings, Hollywood celebrities -- and even a Pope or two -- but never lost her small-town values and sense of humility, compassion, and pure wonder, joy and laughter about all the opportunities God opened to her. She was passionate about travel and never missed any opportunity to visit a relative or friend anywhere on earth, detouring hundreds of miles to enjoy a single cup of coffee with an otherwise long-lost pal



Friendship MN Twin Cities was honored to have Mary at our 40th Anniversary Celebration in 2018.

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

by Jane Bardon, Club President

As we approach the end of the year, this is the time to say “thank you” to the 2020 Board of Directors and all others who supported the Club this year. We had planned a very active year, but that was not be. Nevertheless, your Board continues to meet every month, deal with new challenges, and do what is necessary to keep the Friendship Mission strong and active in Minnesota.

- **Vice President Max Harris** brings years of business experience to the Board and is the person we count on to lead the club, in the absence of the president.
- **Secretary Louise Anderson** not only completes perfect minutes of Board meetings, but as a past president, she shares her insights on issues that come before the Board
- **Treasurer Rose Emerick** processes dues payments, monitors Club finances and advises the Board. We are very lucky to have a professional accountant in this role.
- **Journey Director Cindy Cauble** persistently plan Journeys for us, even though none have come to fruition due visa issues and the pandemic. That’s dedication! She is helping us transition to virtual meetings.
- **Director (until 10-11-20) John Christensen** made a specialty managing Club activities. He is a cheerful host.
- **Director Buck MacDonald** has a long history with the Board and helps facilitate whatever the Board undertakes.
- **Director Rita Mays** chaired the 2020 FFI Super-Regional Conference which, unfortunately, we had to cancel due to COVID-19. She readily volunteers for any project.
- **Director Tom Scott** lead two Open World programs and hosted delegates. He shared his legal expertise as we faced the conference cancellation.
- **Member Jan Lanyk** serves as our Facebook Moderator and Historian. (See page 6.)
- **Member Jane Norman**, our popular local tour leader, planned a Journey to Duluth and Lake Superior for 2020 Conference participants. If the conference had gone forward, we would have had a long waiting list.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Paid Members = 65

Life Members = 15

Total Voting Members 10-20-20 = 80

2020 New = 3 Deceased = 4 Inactive = 9

BOARD DIRECTORS

2020 OFFICERS

President: Jane Bardon
janedbardon@gmail.com
651-484-7989

Vice President: Max Harris
xharris26@comcast.net
952-938-2101

Secretary: Louise Anderson
louisemarieanderson17@gmail.com 612-354-0927

Treasurer: Rose Emerick
rose3689@comcast.net
612-723-6202

DIRECTORS

Cindy Cauble – Journey Director

Buck MacDonald – Member at Large

Rita Mays – Member at Large

Tom Scott – Member at Large

Non-Board Volunteers

Jan Lanyk – Historian,
Facebook Moderator

WEBSITE

friendshipforcetwincities.org

NEWSLETTER

Published quarterly during the COVID-19 pandemic by the FFMNTC Board.

Email submissions to:

FFMinnesotaVP@yahoo.com



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