

EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT VIEWS. DISCOVER COMMON GROUND



friendship force  
MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES



**2019 – 2020 UPCOMING EVENTS**

**NOVEMBER**

- Science Museum – November 7

**DECEMBER**

- Annual Meeting, Holiday Gathering and Elections – December 8

**MAY – 2020**

- Incoming Journey From Los Angeles – May 13-20

**SEPTEMBER – 2020**

- Regional Super Conference September 18-20 – Minneapolis

**NOVEMBER – 2020**

- Outgoing Journey to Cankaya, Turkey \*

See inside for additional information on above activities.

**HOST COORDINATOR NEEDED**

We are in need of a Host Coordinator for the incoming Journey from Los Angeles next May. This is an exciting and rewarding way to get involved with the club. Training will be provided. For further information, contact Journey Coordinator, Cindy Cauble, [Cindyc219@msn.com](mailto:Cindyc219@msn.com); 952,686-8278

\*This journey originally included a club in Israel which recently cancelled. We have asked FFI for an additional week with another club. Stay tuned!



**CULTURAL EXPLORATIONS:  
Native American Exhibit  
Science Museum of Minnesota**

**Thursday, November 7, 120 West Kellogg Boulevard, Saint Paul MN**, across from the Xcel Energy Center and River Centre in downtown Saint Paul, Minnesota.

**The Museum will be open 9:30 AM to 9:00 PM.**

- **Meet at the Elements Café on Level 6 at 11:30 AM for lunch with your fellow Club Members.**
- **Explore the Native American Exhibition on Level 4 after lunch (included in admission).**

**All day admission:** Seniors (65 +) \$14.95, Adults \$19.95, Free for Members. Tickets can be purchased online or at the box office.

**Parking:** The museum's parking ramp (enter on Kellogg Boulevard) is open daily from 5:30 AM. to 11:00 PM and accepts all major credit cards.. Credit Card only.

**RSVP to Jane Bardon at** [FFMinnesotaVP@yahoo.com](mailto:FFMinnesotaVP@yahoo.com) or 651-484-7989.

**DON WOLTER AWARD**

It is time to nominate a member of our club for the annual Don Wolter award. For newer members who did not know Don, he was our newsletter editor for twenty years, faithfully putting out a newsletter deserving of awards. Don passed away in 2013 and we honor Don and his contributions by giving this award to a deserving member each year. The award will be presented at our holiday party on December 8. Board members are not eligible for this award.

If you would like to serve on the award committee or would like to submit a nomination, please contact Louise Anderson at 612-354-0927 or via electronic mail at [louisemarieanderson17@gmail.com](mailto:louisemarieanderson17@gmail.com).

**Nominations are due by November 10.**

The key attributes to consider when nominating a club member for this award includes:

- Displays leadership; serves as a leader
- Flexible
- Enthusiastic with a “can do” attitude,
- Goes the extra mile
- Interested in understanding other cultures
- Positive
- Promotes and supports the mission of Friendship Force

Previous award recipients include:

- Louise Anderson
- Barb Emer
- Willis Unke
- Donna Leak
- Dagmar Runyon

**Submitted by**  
*Louise Anderson*

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Friendship Force International will not be producing name badges any longer. An update will be provided when available.

**Rose Emerick, Treasurer**

**2019 Annual General Membership Meeting and Holiday Party**

**Sunday, December 8, 2019**  
**12:00 to 3:00 pm**  
**Applewood Pointe of Bloomington,**  
**8100 Russell Avenue South**  
**Bloomington MN 55431**

**Holiday Luncheon**  
Main dish provided with holiday punch, water, coffee, and tea.

*Bring a salad or dessert to share, and your own wine or beer.*

**2019 Annual Membership Business Meeting**

- Election of 2020 Officers
- Reports from your 2019 Board
- Don Wolter Award



**Hosts Gordy & Mary Elscott**  
**THANK YOU!**



(We would appreciate it if a few members could come early to help with set-up. Contact Cindy Cauble at [Cindyc219@msn.com](mailto:Cindyc219@msn.com) or 952-686-8278)

## OPEN WORLD – UKRAINE

By *Tom Scott*

After spending two days in Washington D.C., five Open World delegates from Ukraine and a facilitator arrived on September 6. Mary Cunningham hosted a welcome dinner at her home assisted by Rita Mays, Blaine McCutchan and Pat Helin. Approximately 45 club members and friends attended the welcome potluck picnic on Sunday at French Regional Park. The food and camaraderie were great, and the delegates gave an outstanding, memorable presentation.



The delegates consisted of a government lawyer dealing with privacy issues, a journalist and three individuals working with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

During the week the delegates met with numerous organizations and individuals in the Twin Cities dealing with the topic of Access to Governmental Information. There were meetings at the Star Tribune, the Minnesota Supreme Court, the Dakota County Attorney's Office, U.S. Senator Tina Smith's office, the City of St. Louis Park and the Minneapolis

City Clerk's Office. There were also presentations by experts relating to the Freedom of Information Act and our state Government Data Practices Act, laws which regulate privacy and the ability of citizens to gain access to government data about themselves and others.

On September 14 our five Open World delegates and facilitator completed their stay in the U.S. and boarded their plane back to Ukraine.

There are so many people to thank. Our home hosts were Louise Anderson and Godfrey Peterson, Ed Ehlinger, Rose Emerick and John Verby, Max and Carole Harris, Pat Helin and Tom and Janet Scott. Planning committee members were Tom Scott (chair), Rita Mays, Jane Bardon, Buck MacDonald, JC Bosse, Mary Cunningham, John Christensen, Max Harri, and Rose Emerick. Buck and Rita took the lead in planning the social activities. Jane and Jack Bardon hosted the farewell dinner at their home, assisted by Janet Scott, Buck MacDonald and Carole Harris. Ned Worrell and Marcia Novak helped with the welcome picnic.



A special thanks to Retired Supreme Court Justice Paul Anderson who lead a tour of the state capital attended by the delegates, hosts and club members, arranged for the delegates sessions at the Supreme Court, treated the delegates to lunch at the Minnesota Historical Society, provided state medallions for the delegates and generally interacted with the delegates in a very personal and inspirational manner. Finally, as the program chairperson, I want to thank all of the club members for their support of the Open World program. We are providing a bit of help and encouragement to these young leaders from countries like Ukraine, where the struggle for democracy, freedom and the rule of law, all of which we take for

granted, is real and ongoing. A worthwhile enterprise indeed. It has also been an incredibly rewarding experience for our hosts and others involved in the programs. Last and in many ways least, it has also been a plus for the club financially.

**Great Lakes, Midwest and Southwest Regional Super Conference**  
**September 18-20, 2020**  
**Minneapolis, MN**

***“From the Heart of the Heartland”***

Friendship Force of Minnesota/Twin Cities will host a Super Regional Conference September 18-20, 2020. We are expecting 100 -125 members from 28 clubs from three regions (Great Lakes, Midwest and Southwest). This conference is for all club members and club leaders who want to share best practices for club operations, be challenged with new ideas, discuss ways to jazz up our journeys and activities or step out of our box to create new journeys and cultural experiences. All this while meeting old friends, making new friends and exploring Minnesota, the Heart of the Heartland.

The Planning Team, led by Rita Mays, have been working on the Minnesota details and contributing ideas for the theme and program for months. Our club’s President, Jane Bardon and our Treasurer, Rose Emerick are working to create a web presence and on-line registration and payment process. FF Regional Field Representatives have a major role in developing and approving program topics and speakers.

**Brief overview of how the conference will flow:**

- **Friday afternoon, September 18:**  
President’s Leadership Meeting from 1 - 4 p.m.  
Welcome Reception for all from 4 – 6 p.m. Dinner at local restaurants.
- **Saturday, September 19, full day**  
Opening Ceremony at 9 a.m. and Plenaries until 12 noon. Keynote speaker, Jeremi Snook, CEO and President of Friendship Force International. Lunch included. Nuts and Bolts Workshops focus on hands-on learning and sharing how to improve our clubs, journeys and program operations from 1 – 4 p.m.
- **Sunday morning, September 20th:**  
Plenaries on New Approaches and New Ideas Including Exploring Global Cultures Locally.  
Closing Ceremony 11:30 a.m. - 12 noon.

Watch for a Conference Preview Flyer with more details coming soon! Registration opens early in 2020.

**Conference Location: Embassy Suites Hotel by Hilton Minneapolis Downtown** located at 12 Sixth St South, Minneapolis, MN 55402 between the Nicollet Mall and Hennepin Avenue.

**Pre-Conference Tour:**

**North Shore of Lake Superior**

Monday Sept 14 to Thursday Sept 17 led by Jane Norman.

**Metro Activities:** Individual and group activities in the metro area. Details to follow.

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Throughout the coming year, we will ask for volunteers from our club to serve in many roles before, during and after the conference. Members will help with Registration and Welcoming at the conference. Room Hosts will assist speakers. FFMNTC club members will lead dinners and activities. **Contact us now if you have ideas for program topics and speakers or activities or if you have Audio Visual expertise or contacts.**

Rita Mays, FFMNTC Chair of the 2020 Super Regional Conference [ritamnffi@yahoo.com](mailto:ritamnffi@yahoo.com)

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**FOOD TASTING AT THE AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER**

Ten club members and their friends joined the Indigenous Food Tasting program offered by the American Indian Center in Minneapolis on October 14. The Indigenous Peoples' Day Food Tasting Program celebrates and honors Native American peoples, commemorates their culture, and is a movement to reclaim foods that promote sovereignty within the urban Native American community. Native Americans learned to grow many different kinds of food that we use today. Potatoes, beans, corn, peanuts, pumpkins, tomatoes, squash, peppers, nuts, melons, and sunflower seeds helped the European settlers survive in the New World.



**DID YOU KNOW THAT NATIVE AMERICANS CONTRIBUTED IDEAS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR U.S. CONSTITUTION?**

Benjamin Franklin said that the idea of the federal government, in which certain powers are given to a central government and all other powers are reserved for states, was borrowed from the system of government used by the Iroquoian League of Nations.

Submitted by Louise Anderson

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**Thank You**

By Jane Bardon, 2019 President

Thank you to the 2019 Friendship Force of Minnesota /Twin Cities Board of Directors for your dedication and hard work for the past year. *You guys rock!*

- Louise Anderson – Secretary
- Rose Emerick – Treasurer
- Cindy Cauble –
- John Christensen –
- Barb Emer – Newsletter Editor

- Buck MacDonald –
- Rita Mays – 2020 FFI Conference Chair
- Tom Scott – 2019 Open World Coordinator
- Non-board volunteer: Jan Lanyk, Historian and Facebook Group Editor*

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

by Jane Bardon, President

### Membership Data 10-31-19

Members 11-11-18	118
New 2019	10
Inactive 2019	-13
Deceased 2019	<u>-2</u>
<b>TOTAL 10-31-19</b>	<b>113</b>

### Membership Trends

The Club welcomed ten new members in 2019, thirteen were moved to the inactive list (so we don't lose touch), and two passed. Most people who become inactive are experiencing life changes like giving up travel or moving to another home. There are a few who join and never become involved in Club activities.

### Bring Your Friends – Talk Up Friendship Force

There's nothing like "word-of-mouth" for bringing new members into the Club. So, tell your friends and family members about Friendship Force and bring them to Club events. They are always welcome as guests and if they are interested, we add them to the potential member mailing list.

### FFI Membership Dues Change

Friendship Force Clubs pay an annual membership fee for each of their members. Effective January 1, 2019, the FFI member fee will be \$20.00 per individual member. This is an increase of \$5.00 from the current year. FFMNTC membership dues will increase by the same amount, Club dues will be \$40.00 for 2020 (dues were \$35 in 2019.) We have added a donation option to the new membership form for those who want to further support the Friendship Force Mission.

### 2020 FFMNTC Membership Form

The Journey questions on the 2019 Member Form led to a database of members' journey interests. This data helps us develop plans and reach out interested members. The 2019 will be our New Member Form in 2020. Returning members will see a new set of questions to help us improve our programming.

## BOARD DIRECTORS

### OFFICERS

**President: Jane Bardon**  
[janesbardon@gmail.com](mailto:janesbardon@gmail.com)  
 651-484-7989

**Secretary: Louise Anderson**  
[louisemarieanderson17@gmail.com](mailto:louisemarieanderson17@gmail.com) 612-354-0927

**Treasurer: Rose Emerick**

### DIRECTORS

**Cindy Cauble – 2020  
 Journey Coordinator**

**John Christensen**

**Barb Emer – Newsletter  
 Editor**

**Buck MacDonald**

**Rita Mays – Past President**

**Tom Scott – 2019 Open  
 World Program Coordinator**  
 (ex-officio – non-voting)

### Non-Board Volunteers

**Jan Lanyk – Historian,  
 Facebook Editor**

**To email a Board Director,  
 go to:**

[friendshipforcetwincities.org](http://friendshipforcetwincities.org)  
 Click on "Board Contacts" on  
 the red menu bar, then click  
 on the person you want to  
 contact.

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE December 15**

Email submissions to Barb  
 Emer at: [bemer@usfamily.net](mailto:bemer@usfamily.net)

***Thank you to those who  
 contributed articles and  
 photos.***

***Barb Emer, Editor***