

EXPERIENCE DIFFERENT VIEWS. DISCOVER COMMON GROUND



friendship force
MINNESOTA - TWIN CITIES



UPCOMING EVENTS

September Open World Activities – All Members and Guests Invited

- **Sunday, September 8, 1:00 to 5:00 PM: POTLUCK PICNIC.** French Regional Park Visitors Center - Eastwood Room at 12605 Rockford Road, Plymouth
- **Monday, September 9, 9:00 AM to Noon: Opening Session.** Join us at St. Frances Cabrini Church, 1500 Franklin Ave SE, Minneapolis.

Monday Lunch, Noon to 1:00 PM: After the Opening Session, join us at U Garden Chinese Buffet, 2725 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis MN.
- **Monday, September 9, 1:30 to 3:00 PM: Tour of MN State Capitol** (Meet Tom Scott in the rotunda by 1:15 PM)
- **Tuesday, September 10, 6:00 to 8:00 PM: Mississippi River Cruise.** ARRIVE BY 5:30 PM at Paradise Charter Cruises at Bohemian Flats Park, 2150 West River Parkway, Minneapolis MN

SEE PAGES 2 AND 3 FOR DETAILS OF THE OPEN WORLD ACTIVITIES

Cultural Explorations – Minnesota Native American Community

Monday, October 14 – 5:00 to 7:00PM: Indigenous Food Tasting, Minneapolis American Indian Center, 1530 East Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis MN. MEET AT 4:30 BY THE ENTRANCE IN THE PARKING LOT (INSIDE OR OUTSIDE DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER).

Thursday, November 7: Visit to Science Museum of Minnesota, 120 West Kellogg Boulevard, Saint Paul MN. **Meet at the Elements Café on Level 6 at 11:30 AM. Explore the Native American Exhibit on Level 4 after lunch.**

SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS OF THE CULTURAL EXPLORATIONS

2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND HOLIDAY PARTY

Saturday, December 7 – Noon to 3:00 PM, Applewood Point of Bloomington, 8100 Russell Avenue South, Bloomington MN. Hosts – Mary and Gordon Elscott
Friendship Force – MN Twin Cities

September Open World Activities – All Invited

Welcome Potluck Picnic for Ukraine Open World Delegates

Sunday, September 8, 2019 – 1:00 to 5:00 PM

French Regional Park Visitors' Center - Eastwood Room

12605 Rockford Road, Plymouth Minnesota

The Park Visitors' Center is on the north shore of Medicine Lake. There is free, easy parking and plenty of outdoor beach, lake, and trails to enjoy.

For a map and directions, go to:

<https://www.threeriversparks.org/location/french-visitor-center>

Tentative Schedule:

1:00 – 1:30 pm Set-up

1:30 – 3:00 pm Meet, Mingle and Eat (potluck)

3:00 - 4:00 pm Learn about Ukraine and the delegates' public information roles.

4:00 – 5:00 pm Explore the park and clean up

After the meal and socializing, delegates will share information about their country and professional interests to help us learn about Ukraine and its information infrastructure.

Note: This is a Zero Waste facility. The club will provide compostable dinnerware. Bring a large serving to accommodate our guests in reusable, take-home serving containers.



All Club members are invited and encouraged to attend the Welcome Picnic and the Open World events below to meet our guests from Ukraine and learn about their work in providing access to public information, and the Open World program as well.

Opening Session

Monday, September 9, 9:00 AM to Noon, Join us at St. Frances Cabrini Church, 1500 Franklin Ave SE, Minneapolis. Topics: Freedom of Information Act-The Key to Open Government by Professor Jane Kirtley, U of MN and Your Right to Access Government Data by Don Gemberling, former director, Data Privacy Division, MN Dept of Administration.

Coffee will be provided.

Monday Lunch, Noon to 1:00 PM. After the Opening Session, join us at U Garden Chinese Buffet (\$10 plus tax) at 2725 University Avenue SE, Minneapolis MN.

Tour of MN State Capitol

Monday, September 9, 1:30 to 3:00 PM, Meet Tom Scott on the steps outside the main entrance (under the golden horses) by 1:30 PM. The tour will be led by the Honorable Paul Anderson, Retired MN Supreme Court Justice.

Mississippi River Cruise

Tuesday, September 10, 6:00 to 8:00 PM, **ARRIVE BY 5:30 PM** at Paradise Charter Cruises at **Bohemian Flats Park**, 2150 West River Parkway, Minneapolis MN (West Bank of the River near U of MN). City parking costs \$1 per hour at a pay box on the sidewalk; pre-pay before the cruise and place the ticket in your car window. Consider arriving early to avoid traffic. *The tour includes a taco dinner.*

Cruise Fees: Club Members - \$15, Non-Members - \$34, OW Team/Hosts - Complimentary
Contact Buck MacDonald by Sept 7 at jbmcd11@hotmail.com or 763-473-1721 to sign up.
Directions: <http://www.twincitiescruises.com/directions-mississippi>



The Stone Arch Bridge (River Cruise)

*Built in 1882-83 by James J. Hill's Minneapolis Union Railway Company, the Stone Arch Bridge is recognized as a National Civil Engineering Landmark. The bridge provides a link between **Father Hennepin Bluffs Park** on the east bank, and **Mill Ruins Park and West River Parkway** on the west bank.*

Meet our 2019 OW Delegates from Ukraine

VIKTOR

Barvitskyi, Viktor Yuriiovych

Representative of the Commissioner on Observing the Rights on Information and Representation in the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights. (Lawyer)
Male – Age 38 – Basic conversational English
HOST: Ed Ehlinger

SERHII (Sergii)

Ohorodnyk, Serhii Mykolaiovych

Analytical Journalist, Public Movement "CHESNO"
Male – Age 34 – Few words of English
HOSTS: Rose Emerick and John Verby

MARTA

Semeriak, Marta Mykhailivna

Policy Analyst, NGO "Center UA"
Female – Age 34 – Fluent English
HOSTS: Max and Carole Harris

OLEKSANDRA

Stepanova, Oleksandra Viktorivna

Project Manager, NGO "Platform of Human Rights" Female – Age 34 – Conversational English
HOST: Pat Helin

RUSLANA

Velychko-Tryfoniuk, Ruslana Volodymyrivna

"Apps4Cities/City Data" Project Coordinator, TechSoup Europe
Female – Age 32 – Few words of English
HOSTS: Tom and Janet Scott

ILYA

Facilitator: Udovychenko, Ilyia

Communication Expert, Ministry of Information Policy of Ukraine
Male – Age 22 – Fluent English
HOSTS: Rose Emerick and John Verby

TANYA

Interpreter: Tatiana Lukenbill

Female – Fluent English
HOSTS: Louise Anderson and Godfrey Peterson

Friendship Force – MN Twin Cities

Cultural Explorations – MN Native American Community

Indigenous Food Tasting

Monday, October 14 – 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Minneapolis American Indian Center, 1530 East Franklin Avenue, Minneapolis MN. **MEET AT 4:30 PM NEAR THE ENTRANCE IN THE PARKING LOT (INSIDE OR OUTSIDE DEPENDING ON THE WEATHER).**



This event takes place on Indigenous Peoples Day. It will be hosted by Dream of Wild Health and the American Indian Center.

Visit the 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. After 11 p.m. we offer self-service pay stations. Credit Card only.



View from the Elements Café

William (Bill) Cunningham 1937 – 2019

August 2, 2019 was the day we said “goodbye” to Bill - a reserved and gentle man, a long-term Member of Friendship Force of MN Twin Cities. His reserved demeanor hid his deep knowledge and his many accomplishments. Only those who engaged him in quiet conversation were privileged to get a closer glimpse of this remarkable man.

We extend our condolences to Mary, and the Cunningham children, Peg, Mary Ann, and John, and the grandchildren.

Jane Bardon

The obituary below tells some of the story:



William Patrick Cunningham, a University of Minnesota professor who helped lobby Congress to create the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, died last Wednesday in New York at age 82. Cunningham was a Genetics, Cell Biology and Development professor at the U. His focus expanded to include environmental science due to his increasing conservation efforts and his students' interests. Cunningham co-wrote two textbooks with his daughter, Mary Ann Cunningham. “Environmental Science, A Global Concern” and “Principles of Environmental Science” have been top sellers for years and are used in post-secondary education.

Cunningham received the Horace T. Morse-University of Minnesota Alumni Association Award for his contributions to undergraduate education in 1993.

“He was absolutely adventuresome, both intellectually and when he went out on a canoe. That’s an important trait to have in science,” said Beth Starbuck, a graduate student and friend of Cunningham. He also served as president of the North Star Chapter of the Sierra Club in the 1970s, helping persuade Congress to pass the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act in 1978.

Wilderness Watch conservation director Kevin Proescholdt said that Cunningham was a key influence in bringing about the BWCAW. The act gave wilderness status to the vast lake-studded forest region in northeastern Minnesota, added more acreage, banned logging and limited the use of motorized boats and snowmobiles. “He loved the Boundary Waters,” Proescholdt said. “He was always curious, always thoughtful, always reflective.”

Cunningham became an Eagle Scout at age 15 and spent several years at Philmont Scout Camp in New Mexico. When his family moved to Texas, he attended San Marcos High School, Texas State Teachers College and the University of Texas in Austin, where he earned his graduate degree in cell biology and genetics.

Cunningham was born on July 11, 1937, in Ottumwa, Iowa, one of three siblings. He moved to the Twin Cities after he finished graduate school and received a job offer from the University of Minnesota. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellen, of Falcon Heights and three children: Peg Desrochers, Mary Ann Cunningham and John Cunningham.

By JASMINE JOHNSON | jjohnson@pioneerpress.com |

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BOARD UPDATES

by Jane Bardon, President

Please welcome our two newest members:

Marilynn Reid, St. Paul MN
Ned Worrell, St. Louis Park MN

Volunteering

As you know, Friendship Force MN Twin Cities is an all-volunteer organization. As we move into Fall, it's time to do just that – volunteer. **Here's what we need:**

Nominating committee members to identify candidates for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer for 2020. Elections will be held on December 7 at the 2019 Annual General Membership Meeting.

Candidates for Officer and Board positions. Don't be shy. Speak up if you want to be involved.

People to plan events. Do you have contacts in an ethnic community that could lead to new avenues for our Cultural Explorations? Let us know!

Have you wondered why the Club hasn't gone to one of your favorite eating places? Be a one-time host and share that favorite with the Club.

To volunteer for any task above or to help in other ways, please contact President Jane Bardon or Secretary Louise Anderson.

OUR CONTACT INFO IS ON THE SIDEBAR TO THE RIGHT

Friends from Nepal



Shiva Shrestha President and Founder of The Friendship Force of Kathmandu and Maya Shrestha meet with members of our club for lunch at the Gorkha Palace on August 8. Mary Elscott was one of our club members who joined the lunch which included Nepali food. Shiva and Maya were in the United States to attend the FFI World Conference in Boulder CO. They operate a guesthouse, called "Nepal Friendly Homestay" in Kathmandu. **The luncheon was hosted by Louise Anderson.**

BOARD DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

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

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

Treasurer: Rose Emerick

DIRECTORS

Cindy Cauble

John Christensen

Barb Emer – Newsletter Editor

Buck MacDonald

Rita Mays – Past President

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

Non-Board Volunteers

Historian
Jan Lanyk
Sunshine
Val Hessburg

To email a Board Director, go to friendshipforcetwincities.org/. Click on "Board Contacts" on the red menu bar, then click on the person you want to contact.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE October 15

Email submissions to Barb Emer at:
bemer@usfamily.net