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[September-October 2024](#)

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President's Letter

Greetings to all.

Our General Meeting will be Sunday September 15th at North Shelby Library at 2:00 PM. I hope to see all of you there. Our program will be "Friendship Force Flashback". We will be discussing our future incoming and outgoing journeys for 2024 and 2025 and a gift certificate for a member who brings the most potential members to a meeting. So please join us.

In friendship,

Gloria

Member Announcements

LEO

Our next LEO will be held at 12:00 pm, Oct.2nd at Ming's Cuisine, 514 Cahaba Park Circle, Birmingham,35242. Please note the date change due to the FFI Convention. Reminders and sign up will be sent closer to the event. Kathleen Wolf, katwolf9@aol.com or , (205)305-5650.

Game Day

Game Day will be on at the Crossings at noon on October 23 at 12:00 pm . Lunch will be ordered with the cost to be announced. Reminders and sign up will be sent closer to the event. Arlene Spertus, spertus2@gmail.com or (954)551-4072.

See You at Our Next Meeting

Our next meeting is Sunday, September 15, 2pm at the North
¹⁶ Shelby County Library. The program will be on our upcoming
outgoing and incoming journeys. Those members whose last
names begin with initial M-Z, please bring a snack to share
with the group and those whose last names begin with initial A-
L, please clean up afterwards.

October Day Trip

A day trip is being planned to Mentone, AL on October 25. Transportation is on your own. We would suggest carpooling. We will depart Birmingham at 7:00 am and meet at the Alabama Fan Club Museum in Fort Payne at approximately 9:00 am. Museum cost will depend on the number attending-\$10, Seniors \$8, group of 10 or more \$5. Lunch will follow at the Wildflower Cafe in Mentone. After lunch we will have free time until 3. Suggestions are stroll through shops, visit Brow Park or the shops at Moon Lake Village. We will then go to Desoto State Park/Falls. We will plan to depart around 4:30 for home. More information will be available at the general meeting. If you would like to go, please contact Charlotte (copl1@bellsouth.net) or Tom (tltide@bellsouth.net). Guests are welcome.

Journeys

Our next incoming journey will be Santa Barbara, September 23-28, and Greater Harrisburg, PA and Madison, WI in 2025. Outgoing journeys will be to Sarasota, FL, Mid-Williamette Valley, Oregon and Kiel, Germany, also in 2025.

GREAT INTERNATIONAL NEWS!

FFI now has two websites:



- The member portal requiring a password is **my.friendshipforce.org**
- The website for the general public requiring no password: **www.friendshipforce.org**

[Visit FFI Website](#)

The North American Conference will be held in Milwaukee, October 7-9, 2024.



September

3-Mary David

7-Kathi Wolf

13-Terry Kaye Cleckler

27-Betty Morgan

October

1- Callie Waldrop

7-Annette Vazquez

New Point System

You may use the following sheet, for submitting your points bi-monthly to Carol Ball, (205)790-0649 (text) or mandcball@att.net

MEMBER'S DATA MANAGER POINTS SYSTEM MONTHLY REPORT

Name: _____ Month(s): _____ Date: _____

Executive Board Points Per Year

- _____ President – 12 Points
- _____ VP – Programs – 5 Points
- _____ VP – Membership – 8 Points
- _____ VP – Journey Coordinator Training – 6 Points
- _____ Secretary – 8 Points
- _____ Asst Secretary – 4 Points
- _____ Treasurer – 8 Points
- _____ Asst Treasurer/Data Manager – 5 Points
- _____ Past President – 5 Points

Committee Chairs Points Per Year

- _____ Website – 8 Points
- _____ Social – 6 Points
- _____ Hospitality – 3 Points
- _____ Welcome – 3 Points
- _____ Historian – 3 Points
- _____ Merchandising – 3 Points
- _____ LEO – 3 Points each if 2 Chairs
- _____ Social Media – 3 Points
- _____ Newsletter – 6 Points

Journeys – Points Per Journey

(Note: Journey Coordinators are members of the Board until Journey completed.)

- _____ Host Coordinator – 10 Points
- _____ Home Hosting – 2 Points per guest per night – maximum of 12 Points
- _____ Day Hosting (Driver) - 2 Points per guest per day
- _____ Dinner Hosting – 5 Points
- _____ Dinner Hosting Asst. – 3 Points
- _____ Host Welcome/Farewell – 5 Points
- _____ Asst. Hosts Welcome/Farewell – 3 Points
- _____ Booklet Prep/Print (6–10) – 3 Points, (11–15) – 4 Points, (16+) - 5 Points
- _____ Outbound Coordinator – 8 Points
- _____ Assistant Inbound/Outbound Coordinator – 3 Points

MISC

- _____ Social (Hosting at Member's Home) – 5 Points
- _____ Asst. Social Hosting – 3 Points
- _____ Day Trip Organizer – 3 Points
- _____ Attending FF Events* - 1 Point each
- _____ Bring Prospective Member to FF Events* - 1 Point each
- _____ *New Member Training, Journey Coordinator Training, Game Day, LEO, Board Meeting, General Meeting, Attendance at any Inbound Journey Event.
- _____ 'Minus' for Outbound Journey – 2 Points per night

It is the Member's responsibility to submit points bi-monthly to Data Manager.

Illness Guidelines for FF of Birmingham Ambassadors on Journeys

1. Pay special attention to Cold symptoms: wash hands and use hand gel often, and before eating. Avoid close contact with people and crowds.
2. If symptoms continue or increase, monitor temperature for fever, wear a mask in public and take a COVID 19 test.
3. If symptoms include aches and higher temperature, seek Medical advice for a flu test.
4. During this time treat symptoms with Over the Counter medications for fever, cough, sinus infections, etc.
5. Notify the Journey Coordinator of symptoms. Journey Coordinator will notify Host Coordinator.
6. Make arrangements to move out of host home to hotel, or return home
7. To facilitate possible refund for expenses, save all receipts for medications, office visits and cost of hotel. Check your insurance policy to see what they require.

The Friendship Force of Birmingham

Membership Form

The annual dues include: Membership in both the local club and Friendship force International, subscription to the club's newsletter and opportunities to host FFI members from other clubs and travel to and visit other clubs.

Type of Membership: New _____ Renewal _____ \$35.00 for year

Name tag: (required) \$15.00 Type: Magnetic _____ Pin _____

Name on Name tag (PRINT) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Cell _____ Home _____

E mail _____ Birthday _____

Member that invited you _____

Would you be interested in serving on one or more of the following committees?

Membership__ Social __ Hospitality__ Finance__ Publicity__ Programs_____

Welcome__ Website____ Communications____ Facebook____ Scrapbook_____

Checks should be made to **Friendship Force of Birmingham**

Mail or give to: Ann Taylor 4735 Guilford Way, Birmingham, AL 35242

Please read the following FFI Code of Conduct and sign below to indicate your agreement to follow.

Signature _____

Date _____

Code of Conduct agreement: Friendship Force members affirm the following values:

Welcoming: FFI (Friendship Force International) promotes friendship amongst peoples of different backgrounds and cultures globally, regionally and locally. FFI welcomes everyone regardless of nationality, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, political opinion, religion or any other difference.

Open-Minded: FFI seeks to foster mutual respect and appreciation of differences. Members challenge their own prejudices and approach new situations with a learning attitude.

Adventurous: FFI members have a spirit of adventure! They are flexible and adapt to uncertain circumstances with energy and enthusiasm.

Positive: FFI members always consider the needs of others and seek to give more to host communities than they take. FFI members seek to be a force for good and aim to have a positive impact wherever they go.

Innovative: FFI seeks to be constantly evolving; adapting to new and better ways of carrying out our goals. FFI will be responsive to cultural and social changes. FFI members are open to change.

Peace: FFI firmly believes that a world of friends is a world of peace. FFI brings diverse people together to discover common ground. FFI members seek to further peace in all they do. The Friendship Force Member understands that the scope of their relationship with Friendship Force International is limited to a volunteer position and that no compensation or employment-related benefits are expected in return for services provided by the Friendship Force member. The Friendship Force Member recognizes that connected with any travel there are risks of loss, damage, and injury to persons and property, and the Member is willing to assume and bear those risks. The Member also recognized that they are responsible for complying with all laws of all countries visited. Therefore, the Friendship Force Member agrees to and does hereby release, indemnify and hold harmless Friendship Force of Birmingham and Friendship Force International (which shall include the directors, officers, and employees thereof, as well as its volunteer leaders and members) from all claims, actions, and causes of action related to Friendship Force events, journeys or other activities. The Friendship Force Member understands and acknowledges that this release discharges Friendship Force of Birmingham and Friendship Force International from any liability or claim that they may have against Friendship Force International with respect to bodily injury, personal injury, illness, death, or property damage that may result from the Member's involvement in Friendship Force activities.

Mark your calendars for these 2024 Meetings

Board Meetings

November 5

General Meetings

September 15

November 17

Membership Form and Code of Conduct



Friendship Force of Birmingham / The Greater Birmingham area, Birmingham, AL 35244

