



friendship force  
WESTERN COLORADO

# Newsletter

August- 2019



See exchange opportunities  
on Page 3.

## Upcoming Events

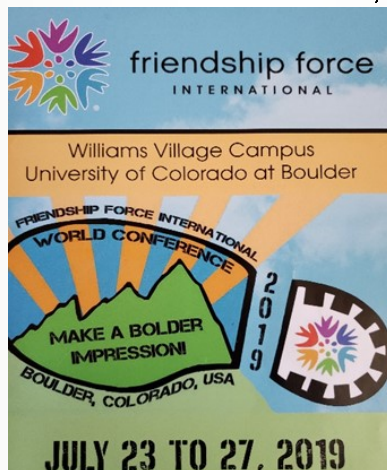
**8/10 Hot Christmas  
Celebration at 12:pm  
Unitarian Church**

**9/17 9am Grand Mesa  
Clean up**

**9/19 6:15pm General  
Membership Meeting  
1st Baptist Church**

## Have a friend that like to travel?

Be sure to invite them to our activities  
so they can see what we do and decide  
if it is for them.



## President's Message

Leadership Council President's musings in bullet point format from the FFI World Conference 2019 in Boulder, Colorado:

Theme: "Make a Bolder Impression"

Our single biggest problem is communication!

Don't forget why we are doing this (Friendship Force)...To make new friends of course!  
"Skip the Small Talk: Harness the Power to Create Authentic Friendships" by Carlyn Shaw, founder of Strangers to Friends.com

Ask a question to allow the other person to feel needed.

Lead with confidence and energy to attract friendship

Ask: "What is something unique about yourself that I would not otherwise have known?"

Ask follow-up questions incorporating a key word from the persons previous answer.

Listen and learn about the other person!

A lady was asked this question, to which she responded that she was a hooker.

Immediately the room quieted to here the dialog. As the person asking the question found out after a few more questions, the lady to whom the question was posed, related that her hobby was hooking RUGS. This lady is no longer a stranger to any of us.

### Best Practices

Enlist friends and/or neighbors to host inbound Ambassadors and then pay their first year's dues

Ask refugees to speak at meetings.

Home stay a refugee during the holidays

Establish a community outreach program for practical reasons

Recruit someone well known from your community

Consider short cruises as journeys

Build active journeys

My hope is that one or more of these bullet points serves to reenergize your personal journey with Friendship Force.

As Always...Travel Safe, Jim

## Western Colorado—Chapter's Leadership Council

Council Coordinator	Jim Gardner	778-6191	<a href="mailto:gardner@bresnan.net">gardner@bresnan.net</a>
Secretary/Historian	Barb Gardner	778-6150	<a href="mailto:bagardner227@gmail.com">bagardner227@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Dan Clancy	404-414-0642	<a href="mailto:dpcx2@outlook.com">dpcx2@outlook.com</a>
Events Coordinators	Kathy Nielsen	260-8548	<a href="mailto:knielsen101@msn@com">knielsen101@msn@com</a>
Membership	Barbara Sundermier Claudia Kellar	256-0093 201-8822	<a href="mailto:sundermeierb@gmail.com">sundermeierb@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:claudiakellar@gmail.com">claudiakellar@gmail.com</a>
Publicity	Jim Witt	209-9241	<a href="mailto:jkwitt811@aol.com">jkwitt811@aol.com</a>
Newsletter	Verna Bunn	260-4787	<a href="mailto:bunnverna@gmail.com">bunnverna@gmail.com</a>
Journey Coordinator	Sue Moyer	242-5999	<a href="mailto:suemoyer51@gmail.com">suemoyer51@gmail.com</a>
Website	DJ Clancy	404-414-4205	<a href="mailto:DJclancy68@gmail.com">DJclancy68@gmail.com</a>
At-Large	Dan Clancy	404-414-0642	<a href="mailto:dpcx2@outlook.com">dpcx2@outlook.com</a>

### Grand Mesa Highway Pick-up: IT'S FUN !!



Coming in September, volunteers from our club will once again be cleaning up our section of the main road through the Grand Mesa. Cleanup tools, bags and safety vests will be provided. Join us and have a great time for a couple hours helping to keep our designated area clean. We are targeting Tuesday, 9/17, as the clean-up date.

Dan Clancy is organizing the effort, so you can also contact him directly to volunteer:  
[Dpcx2@outlook.com](mailto:Dpcx2@outlook.com)    404-414-0642

### Happy Birthday:

Jim Garner	August 24
Ellen Bradley	August 25
Pat Mobley	August 29



# Journey News

## **New Zealand Outgoing Exchange - Grand Junction to Napier and Southland NZ Oct 31 - Nov 16, 2019 Sue Moyer -Ambassador Coordinator**

Things are coming together for the journey. I met Les, the Host Coordinator from Southland, at the World Conference and gave him our fees. Bob, from Napier said they were starting to pull things together and I am finalizing the Ambassador/Host matching sheet. We have 14 confirmed ambassadors and one trying to work out logistics. If you haven't given me or Dan Clancy your final payment of \$450.00, please do so no later than our Christmas in August event. I have to send FFI and Napier their money.

## **Birmingham, AL & Huntsville, AL - Outgoing Exchange - March 14—28th, 2020. Verna Bunn, Ambassador Coordinator**

I have talked to Huntsville and they have agreed to host us the week after Birmingham,. Huntsville has exciting things to see there, it is the NASA center, close to Helen Keller's home and other interesting things. I would like to start receiving ambassador forms for those that would like to go.

## **ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL NEWS**

Greetings from ----- Sue Palmer, Field Rep



## **2019 WORLD CONFERENCE**

Greetings – The World Conference in Boulder, Colorado at Williams Village in CU campus went very well. Everyone had plenty of time to socialize and connect with old and new friends.

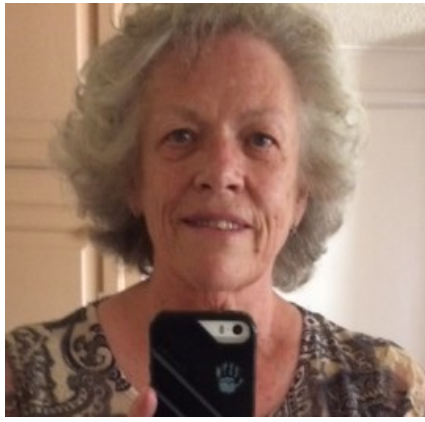
The dorms were comfortable, the Cafeteria was 1<sup>st</sup> Class and the workshops offered an array of subjects and discussions. The optional activities were fun too!

A BIG Thank you goes to Sue Moyer as the homestay coordinator and also home hosting. Thank you to Jim and Barb; Dan and DJ; Marguerite; and Shirley Schultz for all opening up their homes to the delegates.

Thanks to Kathy and her helpers for setting up the ice cream social. Thank you --Jeff for hosting the ice cream social in your beautiful backyard.

I'm including an article from the Boulder Daily Camera Newspaper regarding the World Conference in Boulder. It's an excellent article that includes interviews with members from Africa and Japan. The article explained our mission to bring people together in a peaceful way, while establishing life-time friendships.

In Friendship Sue Palmer



## **Please Welcome New Member Beverly Urban!**

Beverly has a daughter and an 11 year old grandson who live here in Grand Junction. Her son has a 13 year old daughter who lives in North Carolina.

Beverly is a retired marriage and family therapist, however, she is really not retired! She is a very busy lady! Beverly owns a beautiful Bed & Breakfast with a picnic and wedding venue. In addition to operating the

B&B, she volunteers for Meals on Wheels, goes to Mesa Fitness and has kept her grandson a large portion of the summer. In her free time she is working....with pastels and watercolors. She has painted with acrylics in the past.

Beverly is interested in domestic journeys with Friendship Force. Traveling to Washington, D.C. and New Orleans is on her bucket list. She would like to home host, be a day driver and hopes the club can use her outdoor area for a journey picnic.

Beverly, thanks for joining Friendship Force!

## **Pre-hosting for the World Conference.**

Sue Moyer, Host Coordinator

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the pre-hosting. The ice cream social was lots of fun and our guests had a great time. The home hosts did a great job showing the ambassadors around the area. I also want to thank the day hosts and drivers who took the ambassadors to Boulder to the World Conference. It was awesome to have it so close to home. We had a great turnout from our club and the ambassadors from around the world were fun to meet and visit with. The sessions were very interesting and gave us some great ideas.



## Boulder Daily Camera

By Robert Tann | PUBLISHED: July 24, 2019 at 5:17 pm | UPDATED: July 26, 2019 at 11:17 am

### **Friendship Force brings 400 to Boulder to bring people together ‘at personal level’**

Tanzania native Tito Kilale grew up with the belief that when visiting South Africa, it would be dangerous for him, a black man, to stay in the home of someone who is white. When he arrived in Cape Town in 2006 he was nervous about how he would be treated, but when his hosts welcomed him with open arms, Kilale found he and his hosts were more alike than he thought.

“We are told things (about each other) that are not true,” Kilale said. “It’s good to come together.”

Kilale’s visit to Cape Town was made possible through Friendship Force International, a nonprofit organization with a mission “to explore new countries and cultures from the inside by bringing people together at the personal level.”



Bedzra Dela Quarcoo, of Ghana, waves to the crowd after he is introduced. Friendship Force International brought more than 400 international visitors to Boulder this week for its 2019 World Conference at University of Colorado Boulder.

This week, the organization is bringing people together at the University of Colorado Boulder. Friendship Force’s 41st World Conference kicked off on Wednesday with about 400 members from 20 countries, Kilale included. Yoshiko Koizumi, left, Kumiko Hashimoto and Nobuko Shimada, all from Japan, take out their fans as they are introduced Wednesday at Friendship Force International’s World Conference at the University of Colorado at Boulder.[/caption]

Kilale had made the 9,000 mile trip from his home country to Boulder for the organizations 41st World Conference on Wednesday.

The conference started Wednesday morning at the Williams Village Dining and Community Center with a welcome from Boulder Mayor Suzanne Jones. She said Friendship Force’s mission of building diplomacy through relationships aligns with the city’s vision, adding the need for friendship has never been more important.

“We want to open our arms to (Friendship Force) and what it symbolizes,” Jones said. “When the tone of national politics is divisive, it’s up to all of us to build the connections that bring us all back together.”

The conference was partially sponsored by CU Boulder’s Peace, Conflict and Security Program. The program’s associate director Michael D. English said the world is in a “period of polarization.”

“

## Boulder Daily Camera-continued

“Relationships matter, it matters that you invite people into your home,” English said. “Violence destroys relationships and once violence gets unleashed, the situation is changed forever.”

That is why Friendship Force invites people to step outside of their comfort zone by visiting other countries and staying with host families. Peace is attained, English said, through close contact with others.

Many conference attendees had been host families and guests around the world.



Toko Yomura, who made the more than 5,000-mile trip from Tokyo to Boulder, has been a Friendship Force member for more than 40 years. She has hosted many members in the past, but one of her

“That favorite memories is having breakfast at the U.S. embassy in Japan. was a first for me,” Yomura said.

“Everybody was so impressed.”

Being a host family is about showing others her culture, Yomura said. For her, culture is about everyday things, from home cooking to how one sleeps. She also has three children who she said love to introduce visitors to their way of life.

“They were very excited to show their origami,” Yomura said. “My daughter and I will show people our music and people are very pleased to hear it.”

Terry Gichuiya, who made the 8,000-mile trip from Kenya to Boulder, said the mission of Friendship Force is to break barriers between people.

“It’s all about peace, friendship and feeling comfortable when we are together,” Gichuiya said.

She said that when people come to stay with her in Kenya, the experience is something they never expected.

“The warmth of Kenyans, our hospitality, our humility ... because of that our friendship grows and becomes a family,” Gichuiya said.

Friendship Force’s ideology has made its way to the national stage, with speakers and attendees reminding that former President Jimmy Carter championed a National Peace Academy. More recently, 2020 Democratic presidential candidate Marianne Williamson has called for a department of peace to be formed in the United States.

But in what many see as a divisive political time, friendships can be tested. Iowa resident Robert Strahan, who fiercely opposes President Donald Trump, knows many of his neighbors support the president. Still, he believes if people took more time to know others on a personal level, more conflicts would be avoided.

“People need to come together and see what is similar even in a radically different political situation,” Strahan said. “I don’t see the hurt in that at all.”

As Friendship Force President and CEO Jeremi Snook put it, the organization is about making connections.

“There are so many things that are superficial,” Snook said. “Friendship Force is about finding a way to establish real, lasting connections.”

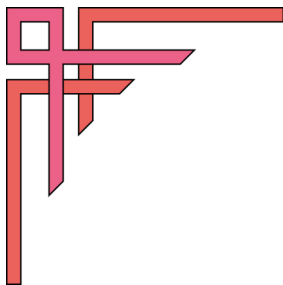
The conference continues with workshops and tours of Boulder through until Friday. The next conference in 2021 will be held in Taiwan.

<https://www.dailycamera.com/2019/07/24/friendship-force-brings-400-to-boulder-to-bring-people-together-at->

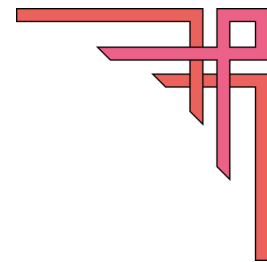


Pictures from the World Conference and pre-exchange.





Friendship Force of Western Colorado  
Summary of Leadership Council Minutes  
8/6/19



Ten of eleven Leadership Council Members present; quorum is four.

Treasurer's Report: Club Funds & Exchange Funds were reviewed & approved. Membership & Dan continue to work on obtaining name tags.

Journey Updates:

FFI World Conference in Boulder, CO was July 24-27. All 8 of the pre-conference ambassadors were delightful. Thanks to all who made the **all-club** activity on Sunday, July, 21st, our Ice Cream Social & Welcome Party in Jeff Parker's backyard, a huge success. 37 people attended. Our club had 9 members attending the World Conference.. They all came back energized with new friends, journey potentials & lots of new ideas. Communication is the key. Some good phrases for explaining FFWC are:

\* Cultural Exchange, Ambassadors for World Peace

World Peace through Friendship with the home stay component mentioned

The outgoing Journey to New Zealand in November 2019 has 14 ambassadors & is closed. Please call Sue M for details on obtaining your visa which is a new requirement as of Oct 1st.

Our outgoing journey to Birmingham, AL is from March 14 - 21, 2020. Their Host Coordinators are Ann Taylor & Dianna Murphree. Verna Bunn is the Journey Coordinator for this journey. She is in contact with the Huntsville, AL club for a possible second week.

Our HOT CHRISTMAS PARTY is this Sat, 8/10, 12 noon at the Unitarian Church, 536 Ouray Ave., GJ, (the street behind the main library). Our own Ellen & Ron Bradley will be playing for us & accompanying us for the Christmas Carols. There will be SURPRISES! Ham, turkey & vegetable lasagna are being prepared. PLEASE GET IN THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS.

"DRESS UP", but no heat stroke please. Jim G will discuss our service project of giving for underprivileged youth that day & again at our Sept 19th meeting.

If you haven't gotten your 2019 Membership Booklets, they will be available at the HOT CHRISTMAS PARTY.

Check out our webpage at [www.ffwcolo.com](http://www.ffwcolo.com). It's very informative! We had 417 people taking a look in a month. Pictures from the World Conference coming.

CMU Theater productions: 2019 conflicts our outgoing to New Zealand. Sunday, 3/1/2020 for Fiddler on the Roof. Tickets are \$18 for seniors, \$22 for others.

Attend The Wizard of Oz put on by High Desert Opera. New Year's Eve or the following weekend. More info to follow.

**EVENTS UPDATE:**

Sat., Aug. 10, 12 noon, **HOT CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!!!** at the Unitarian Church, 536 Ouray Ave., GJ.  
See above.

Tues., Sept. 3, 9-11 a.m., Leadership Council, Bozarth Chevrolet

Tues., Sept 17, 9 a.m.: **OUR SERVICE PROJECT: CLEAN UP OUR 2-MILE STRETCH OF THE GRAND MESA**

Thurs., Sept. 19, 6:15 p.m. , General Membership Mtg, Nominating Committee formed.

1st Baptist Church, 7th & Grand, GJ

Tues., Oct. 1, 9-11 a.m., Leadership Council, Bozarth Chevrolet

Saturday in October: Breakfast & Conversation Date & time TBD

Wed., Oct. 23, 4-8 p.m. Fund Raiser at Dos Hombres, Clifton. **NEED VOLUNTEERS**

Sat., Nov. 2, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Cultural Fest at the Main Library, 5th & Grand, GJ **NEED VOLUNTEERS**

Tues., Nov. 5, 9-11 a.m. Leadership Council, Bozarth Chevrolet

Sun., Nov. 10, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Fund Raiser at Barnes & Noble Jim G will coordinate. **NEED VOLUNTEERS**

Thurs., Nov. 21, 6:15 p.m., General Membership Mtg. & elections, 1st Baptist Church, 7th & Grand, GJ

Tues., Dec. 3, 9-11 a.m. Leadership Council, Bozarth Chevrolet

Sat., Dec., 14, 12 noon, **PICNICING IN DECEMBER!!**, at the Unitarian Church, 536 Ouray Ave, GJ



## **Friendship Force Pledge**

**As a member of the Friendship Force I recognize that I can make a Difference.**

**I recognize that I have a mission; that mission is to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching me.**

**I know that through my example to my own fellow citizens and the people of other nations, the cause of friendship, love, and peace will be furthered.**

**I can make a difference.**

**Friendship Force International  
Western Colorado Chapter  
P.O. Box 3665  
Grand Junction, CO 81502  
[www.ffwcolo.com](http://www.ffwcolo.com)**

