



friendship force
WESTERN COLORADO

www.ffwcolo.com

Newsletter

January - 2020



See exchange opportunities
on Page 2.

Upcoming Events

Thurs., Jan 16, 6.15 pm,
General meeting, First
Baptist Church

Tuesday, Feb 4th 9-11
Leadership Council
Meeting

Fiddler on the Roof,
Sunday, March 1st 2 pm
CMU

Council Leader's January Message

Hello!

My name is Dan Clancy and I am the new club Council Leader for 2020. With the unanimous approval of the Leadership Council at the January meeting, I have begun assuming the role of leading our club. I have been with the Western Colorado club for two years. Before that, my wife DJ and I were members of the Atlanta Friendship Force club from 1996-2008. I look forward to working with all of the Leadership Council members to continue the success and camaraderie that our club enjoys. Much of the club's success is thanks to Jim Gardner, the outgoing Council Leader. Jim has done an excellent job the past two years of elevating every aspect of Friendship Force of Western Colorado.

Your 2020 Leadership Council is determined to provide events and activities that will excite our membership and prompt more members to get involved in the club. Our Valentine luncheon in February is the first of many events we are planning this year. We all believe in and live the Friendship Force mission. With all of us together, let's make the Western Colorado club the best it can be.

See you at the general meeting on Thursday, January 16.
Dan

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES!

Annual membership fees are due by *January 31, 2020*. Dues are \$40.00 per person. They will increase to \$45.00 per person if paid between February 1 & March 31, 2020. Make check payable to FFWC. You may give payment to Dan Clancy, Treasurer, at the "Summer Picnic in December" on Saturday, December 14th or mail to:

FFWC
PO Box 3665
Grand Junction, CO 81502

Have a friend that likes to travel?

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

Western Colorado—Chapter's Leadership Council

Council Coordinator

Secretary/Historian	Ellen Bradley	640-6981	Meb712002@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Dan Clancy	404-414-0642	dpcx2@outlook.com
Events Coordinators	Kathy Nielsen	260-8548	knielsen101@msn@com
Membership	Rebekah McDermott Marguerite Collard	214-536-2250 434-3137	rebekahmcdermott@gmail.com margueritecollard@gmail.com
Publicity	Jim Witt	209-9241	jkwitt811@aol.com
Newsletter	Michele Wells	250-5116	m.mcwellsco@gmail.com
Journey Coordinator	Ron Bradley	640-6981	Meb712002@yahoo.com
Website	DJ Clancy	404-414-4205	DJclancy68@gmail.com
At-Large	Bev Urban	210-5445	
Facebook, Publicity & Regional Rep	Sue Palmer	260-4653	alfshouse12@hotmail.com



Journey News

Outgoing Exchange: Birmingham, AL & Huntsville, AL - .

Verna Bunn, Ambassador Coordinator

Has been Cancelled

Fall 2020: Outgoing Mystery Trip is still in the works, late September/early October.

Incoming Exchange:

Lake Simcoe, Ontario, Canada is incoming May 2-9, 2020. Jim G is Host Coordinator.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN A FRIENDSHIP FORCE SOCIAL EVENT??

"RESERVE YOUR TICKET"

If you would like to attend **Fiddler on the Roof** on Sunday, March 1, 2020 at 2:00 pm please reserve a ticket with me by Thursday, January 16, 2020 (which is our January Friendship Force meeting). The play is through the CMU Drama Department in Robinson Theater.

Make check payable to CMU.

TICKET PRICES:

\$18.00 for seniors

\$22.00 for adults

If you have any questions please call me at 970.242.9124.

Thanks,

Claudia Kellar



Gary Brison - Jan 1

Carol Basti – Jan 2

Virginia Taylor – Jan 28

Berverly Uraban - Jan 17

Happy Birthday:

FF of Western Colorado
Leadership Council Minutes
1/7/20

Present: Michelle Wells, DJ Clancy, Dan Clancy, Jim Gardner, Kathy Nielsen, Rebekah McDermott, Ellen Bradley, Ron Bradley, Bev Urban, and Sue Palmer

Dan called the meeting to order and passed out the agenda. The Leadership Council Minutes of December 3, 2019 were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- 1) Dan reported that there are two accounts at Wells Fargo – one for the General Fund and the other for Journey expenses. Both reports were approved. Jim G. suggested that he, Dan, and Ron will need to make an appointment with the bank to get the names on the accounts changed.
- 2) The Alabama outgoing journey has been cancelled due to not enough participants. The \$200 deposit was returned to those folks who had signed up.
- 2a) NZ travelers were refunded \$87 each.
- 3) Dues are due at FFI by 1/15. Dan will send them (\$20/person = \$840).
- 4) New badges have been ordered for our four new members. These will be distributed at the 1/16 meeting.
- 5) 25 members plus 4 guests attended our winter picnic in December. Dan asked Bev, our new Member-at-Large, to keep track of attendance at events from now on.
- 6) The Treasurer's laptop is woefully outdated (2006), so that it is difficult if not impossible to use newer programs such as Windows 10 and the latest version of Quicken on it. Dan will research price of buying a new one (perhaps a refurbished one). There is also a possibility that he and Michelle could share the laptop she is using for the Newsletter, since Dan would only use it once or twice a month.

Membership

- 1) Rebekah reported that there are four new members: Jan Reece, Judy Seely, Gary Brison and Jane Elles. Jan and Judy have gone through orientation and the other 2 will soon. Pictures and blurbs are ready for the directory. The new members will be introduced at the 1/16 meeting. Rebekah will pass a draft of the directory around at the 1/16 meeting so that people can double check their information.
- 2) Rebekah showed the Council a spreadsheet she has created showing members' special interests, with the hopes that this will encourage more participation. The goal of Membership is to get everyone involved with at least one activity.
- 3) Rebekah suggested that the application be corrected to show that we have bi-monthly meetings.
- 4) Jim suggested that Membership continue to contact anyone who hasn't shown up for several meetings/events in a row, in order to keep everyone engaged and involved

Journey Coordinator

- 1) Ron reported that he had had an orientation session with Sue. He will work closely with Jim on the incoming journey from Lake Simcoe, ON in May.
- 2) Jim reported that the Lake Simcoe group (10-15 people) will be here May 2-9, 2020. We will be mentoring this group at the same time so seminars will be built into the program of activities. Jim has been in touch with the leader and they are interested in outdoor activities such as rafting and horseback riding. They also hope to see snow in the mountains. Jim is looking into various locations and possibilities to fit their interests. Surcharges may need to be applied for some activities. There is also a possibility that there may be a slight surcharge for getting into national parks. Jim will look into this.
- 3) Jim passed out a revised application form for home hosts as well as sign-up sheets for day hosts, dinner parties, and driving. These will also be passed around at the 1/16 meeting. Jim reminded the Council that we don't necessarily follow the first-come, first served rule, but instead choose people who are the best qualified to carry out various duties. It was also pointed out that occasionally there are more volunteers than needed.
- 4) Mystery trip (outgoing, late Sept/Oct) – still working on it. Initially it was to be to Japan, but this was cancelled.
- 5) Jim has been contacted by the Shelby, NC Club (50 mi. NW of Charlotte) which would like to come here in late summer/early fall. They are also happy to host our Club.

Jim thanked the Council for the generous monetary gift he received at the end of his term as President and said that in the spirit of leaving an organization in a better place than when he started his office, he had donated the gift to Grand Valley Equine.

Dan shared the idea that since we had to cancel the Alabama trip, we should perhaps reach out to clubs in our region or consider the NC club's invitation. Sue P. will contact the president of the Albuquerque club to see if there's a possibility of traveling there sometime in 2020.

DJ requested information about journeys to put on the website, including pictures of people doing activities. Sue P. said she would do promotion, including perhaps having a reporter come when the Lake Simcoe group is here. We have plenty of water bottles and bags to give away.

Events

- 1) Kathy remarked that the highest participation among club members occurs when food is involved (!) She mentioned a chili cook-off as a possibility for some time this year. This could be a small fund raiser as well.
- 2) Possibilities for a Valentine's Day lunch were discussed. Kathy will look into places/prices and propose a date at the 1/16 meeting.
- 3) It was decided not to do a reversal of Christmas and picnic again this year. Kathy will reserve December 5th for the Christmas party at the Unitarian Church and August 16th at 4:00 at Rocket Park for our summer picnic.
- 4) Our Barnes and Noble book fair will be held on December 12th. Dan will look into doing gift wrapping on the same date.

At-Large -- No report, as Bev is new to this position. Other Council members can call on Bev for help when needed. She can also help with planning regular meetings. Dan reminded us that members giving programs about places they have traveled to works well. It was also suggested that DJ give a program on social media at the January General Meeting.

Newsletter

- 1) Each person on the Council will establish a gmail address for his/her position such as: FFWCsecretary@gmail.com.
- 2) The same format for the newsletter will be kept.
- 3) The Council Minutes will no longer be included in the newsletter. Ellen will write a blurb for Michelle to put in the newsletter, letting club members know that they can receive the minutes upon request.
- 4) The deadline for submitting articles for the newsletter will be the 25th of each month and the newsletter will be mailed at the beginning of each month.
- 5) Michelle was urged to use a proofreader to avoid too many errors going out. Dan also mentioned the possibility of more emails going out to members about meetings and events.

Web Page and Instagram Coordinator

DJ reported that Vista Print has been upgraded to Version 4. She is adding pictures, particularly action shots. The site is growing – we are getting more “follows”. This can be used as a recruiting tool, Younger people tend to use Instagram rather than Facebook. Ron asked about using Pinterest. DJ will look into it.

Publicity, Facebook, and Regional Coordinator

- 1) Sue P. will work with Jim W. regarding participation in Culture Fest 2020 in November.
- 2) Sue handed out job descriptions for each position on the Council.
- 3) Sue is working on our Facebook page and is open to suggestions.
- 4) There will be a Western Regional Super Conference in Portland, OR from May 21-23, 2020. Sue P. will attend. The theme is “Embracing Diversity Through Friendship Force”. Information about this will be in the newsletter.

New Business

- 1) A report must be sent to FFI giving officers’ names, number of members, and activities we enjoyed in 2019. Dan will get with Jim and send it to Atlanta.
- 2) A 2020 calendar of events and meetings will be developed by a small committee of two – Kathy N. and Bev U. The secretary will keep a master copy of the calendar once it’s been developed.
- 3) Updating the By-Laws was discussed. Duties of some of the offices may need to be revised (Treasurer, At-Large...). Everyone on the Council will read the By-Laws before the next meeting and be prepared to discuss. Each office should especially look carefully at their own duties.
- 4) Goals for 2020 will also be discussed at the next meeting, using 2019 goals as a guide. Rebekah will scan the 2019 goals and send them out to Council members.
- 5) Finding a leader for the Council was the next topic. Taking turns was discussed, but it was decided that this is inefficient and could result in difficulty in communications. Dan ultimately volunteered to be our Leader for 2020. It was moved, seconded and approved by the entire Council with gratitude on all sides.
- 6) Sue P. will work on getting more pins.

Our next meeting will take place at the same time and place on Tuesday, February 4th.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Bradley, Secretary

Message from Ellen:

At the Leadership Council meeting on January 7, 2020 it was decided that the Minutes of the Leadership Council will no longer be published in the Newsletter. However, be reminded that any member of the Club can attend Council meetings at any time. We meet at Ed Bozarth Chevrolet on the first Tuesday of each month from 9 to 11 a.m.

The Minutes are also available upon request.

Email Ellen Bradley, Secretary, at FFWCsecretary@gmail.com and I'll be happy to send them to you. Thanks!

Meet Our New Members!



Welcome, **Jan Reece**! Coming from a French Canadian background, she is interested in most all cultures and enjoys meeting people. She brings enthusiasm, curiosity, some knowledge of French and a genuine interest in life stories of the members.

Though her travels have taken her to Ireland, Spain, Portugal, and some of U.S., Canada and Mexico, she longs to travel more.

She enjoys volunteering, hosting small gatherings, playing cards, reading, and interacting with others.

her previous occupation ranged from Administrative Asst in the Medical profession to Winery Asst.

Why not ask her about this!!!

Jan Reece, 1111 Horizon Dr. #511, Grand Junction, CO 81506 home (970) 242-0655
cell (970) 260-3895 janekins39@gmail.com June 8th

jsealy@bresnan.net



Judy Sealy brings a love of travel, joy of life and much enthusiasm. Her travels have taken her to Australia, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Sicily and Canada. She hopes to visit Machu Picchu, an Incan citadel set high in the Andes Mountains in Peru, above the Urubamba River valley.

While working at a Title company and raising a family, she also raised Lamas for 15 years! She enjoys meeting new friends, travel, hiking and all outdoors, and feels she brings friendliness, helpfulness and willingness to learn and share.

Get to know her adventurous side.----

Judy Sealy, 780 Jade Lane, Grand Junction, CO 81506 (970) 270-2065 jsealy@bresnan.net
October 14th



Welcome, **Jean Alles & Gary Brison** Jean is a former member ready to enjoy travel with us again. She has her list of travel wants and brings lots of enthusiasm to the group. She and Gary would love to help incoming visitors explore the Denver and mountain areas as well as act as day host. Gary volunteered at the Denver Botanic Gardens as a Historic House Guide and enjoys writing short article. Jean was an RN, business owner and educator and loves sharing with people. Gary is a 20 Air Force retiree (active reserves) and retired Police Officer. Jean and Gary, we are eager to know you better.

1954 S. Carr St., Lakewood, CO 80227

Jean phone (970) 396-6587 jeanalles@me.com Aug 13th

Gary phone (303) 681-8492 brison.gary@yahoo.com Jan 1st.

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
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