

March 2021



friendship force
WESTERN COLORADO



www.ffwcolo.com

Upcoming Events:

- Monthly Board Meeting: March 2, 2021 9:00am via Zoom. Contact Ellen Bradley at meb712002@yahoo.com for link to join meeting.
- **Thursday, March 18 2021 6:15 pm—Monthly Zoom Meeting. Ellen will send an invite for you to join. All you need do is accept to Zoom with us.**
- Check your email for a separate Membership Directory update.

ABOUT THE CLUB

Friendship Force Western Colorado, located in Grand Junction, CO., was formed in 1982.

General meetings held during odd months are currently suspended due to Covid 19.

Each meeting features travel, a time for fellowship, and a light snack.

Membership is open to all who are interested in the goals and purposes of the Friendship Force program.

Check our website or the newsletter for updates. www.ffwcolo.com

**A World of Friends is
a World of Peace!**

Inside These Pages

- See pictures of our first meeting since January 2020—Zoom made it easy to meet.
- Ellen Bradley submitted Minutes from the meeting for your reading pleasure
- Enjoy some meme's and jokes
- Sue Palmer sent an article about Friendship Day! And included a couple of pictures from a few years back
- Updates from Membership
- A "Puzzling" article from our Leader
- Leadership list, including neighboring clubs





Council Leader's Message

Hello Western Colorado members,

March is Springtime. I see some Crocus and Daffodils already springing up out of the ground. On March 14 we will be changing the clocks to "spring forward" one hour. And we are beginning to have a spring in our step as Covid-19 vaccinations are taking place. For the first time in months, I really believe that we can get back to our old normal this year. Don't put your mask away after you get your second vaccination. Masks and social distancing will still be encouraged at any events that our club schedules in the coming months.



I see us being able to get together for some outside activities this summer, like our annual picnic and ice cream social. I hope we will be able to follow through on the idea of day trips that we first mentioned a year ago. There will likely not be any FFI journeys planned with other clubs for 2021. However, we may try to have a mini-journey with the Northern Colorado club in the Fall.

Thanks to everyone who attended the General Meeting on February 18. We held the meeting using the ZOOM application. We will do the same at this month's meeting on Thursday, March 18, at 6:15pm. You can read the minutes of the February meeting in this newsletter. Watch for an email about a week before the meeting that contains the meeting information and agenda. Don't let not knowing about ZOOM be a reason to miss the meeting. Contact any of the leadership council members for ZOOM instruction if you need it.

My phone weather app shows 60+ degrees days ahead.

Get outside and enjoy the Springtime!



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Stay safe.

Dan

Zoom Meeting

February 18, 2021



Jeanine Wehner was the first member to share of “A travel related experience that you love”. The top , middle block is her sharing her wedding day. She wore her grandmother’s dress, her sons and sisters were her attendants. After the lovely wedding, she and new husband took a trip to Cancun for their honeymoon.

You see the back of her head while she shares. 3 members joined me for dinner prior to the meeting. Jeanine Wehner, Marguerite Collard, and Judy Sealy. Amongst our laughter and delicious dining, we prepared for the meeting .

In this snap you see some of the ladies who were at my home for dinner, sitting in support of me giving the Membership news updates.

Judy Sealy was kind enough to take these snaps. (At Rebekah’s home)



Dan, at his laptop, leading the meeting.

We had lots of fun and laughs. It was a pleasure to have Ken Weaver & his wife, Paulette of the Greeley, CO group (and also a member of our group) join us and share ideas and insights from northern Colorado.



Visually preparing for travel

Shelby, NC: One of the proposed inbound and outbound trips slated next year is to Shelby, NC. Only 3 hours away is another club in Knoxville, TN. And in between are Dollywood, mountains (not like Colorado, but certainly worthy of driving through), The Biltmore Estate in Asheville, NC, The University of Tennessee, Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge, and some of the best eating your mouth has ever experienced.

Here are some highlights to whet your traveling appetite and create interest in this delightful trip!!!!



Downtown Shelby



One of many antebellum homes famous in the South.



Twin Trestle Trailhead



John Moss Recreational Lake



3 hr 4 min (185.9 mi) via I-40 W

Visually preparing for travel

Shelby, NC Club (cont)

About the club

The Friendship Force of Shelby has 51 members who are eager to host. The membership is made up of mostly of retirees, but is always seeking younger members.

About the region

Cleveland County is nestled in the southwestern corner of North Carolina along the South Carolina border in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. There are approximately 100,000 people in the county. Cleveland County is one of the best agricultural counties in the state. Farm products produced are cotton, poultry, dairy, livestock, grain crops, blackberries, grapes and greenhouse crops. There are 100 manufacturing firms in the county. These firms produce food products, textiles, furniture, electronic and electrical equipment, truck transmissions, aircraft equipment and more. North Carolina including Shelby, is one of the newest and fastest growing wine producers.

About the Journey

Some of the interesting events available for a Journey include the following:

- The NASCAR series races at the Charlotte Motor Speedway near Charlotte. Tours are available for groups.
- Charlotte is the home of the Carolina Panthers professional football team and tours are available.
- America's largest private home, The Biltmore House, is located in Asheville, which is only 70 miles from Shelby.
- Grandfather Mountain and its Mile High Bridge is a favorite site for ambassadors.
- West Jefferson has a cheese-making industry and churches with frescoes painted on the walls.
- Greer, South Carolina, is home to a BMW plant that has daily tours of their automobile production.



Tune in next monthto get a glimpse of all you can do and see from Shelby, NC to Knoxville, TN.

Laughter is Good Medicine!

Michael was on a once in a lifetime trip to Europe. In a Paris church, he saw an old style phone with this sign:

Phone Direct to Heaven- only \$5,000.

He was intrigued but couldn't afford that kind of money. Unfortunately, the same price applied in churches in England, Italy and Spain.

Then he arrived in Ireland, where he found the same phone... but this time the sign said:

Phone Direct to Heaven - only \$10.

Delighted, he asked the priest why the price was so low.

"Because you're in Ireland, of course, it's a local call"

irelandcalling.ie

Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.



Bizwaremagic's Funny Quotes

Next time you expect a toddler or child to share, just remember how adults acted in 2020 over groceries.

we are like a box of
CRAYONS
each one of us
UNIQUE
but when we get together...
the picture is
COMPLETE

Think you're bored?
Sir Isaac Newton invented calculus during the plague.

Do you have any idea of how bored you must be to invent calculus?

PROCAFFEINATING

(n.) the tendency to not start anything until you've had a cup of coffee.

Blessed are we who can laugh at ourselves... for we shall never cease to be amused!



The Joys of March

Sat., March 20th is the
first day of *Spring*!

MARCH HOLIDAYS

1-Peanut Butter Lover's Day
3-National Anthem Day
6-National Frozen Food Day
8-Popcorn Lover's Day
10-Middle Name Pride Day
11-Johnny Appleseed Day
12-Girl Scouts Day
14-National Pi(e) Day
14-Potato Chip Day
15-Ides of March
16-No Selfies Day
17-St. Patrick's Day
21-World Down Syndrome Day
22-National Goof Off Day
23-National Chips and Dip Day
23-National Puppy Day
24-National Chocolate Covered Raisin Day
25-Palm Sunday (varies each year)
25-Waffle Day
26-National Spinach Day
28-Something on a Stick Day
30-Good Friday (varies each year)
30-Take a Walk in the Park Day

SOFEESTIVE.COM



MAY YOUR POCKETS BE
HEAVY AND YOUR HEART
BE LIGHT, MAY GOOD LUCK
PURSUE YOU EACH
MORNING AND NIGHT.

- IRISH BLESSING -

March 17th



March 14th



This one may not be a joy!!!

Passover, Sunday, March 28th



FRIENDSHIP DAY is March 1, 2021

March 1, 2021 marks the 44th anniversary of the founding of Friendship Force International, a non-profit organization that has brought together more than 1 million people in homestays since 1977 to share different views and discover common ground, in a quest for global understanding and peace.

On that special day in March, 1977 FFI was created by Wayne Smith and endorsed by President Jimmy Carter.

The mission from the beginning was to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people.

In past years, FFI clubs all over the world have celebrated this special day. Looking back on March 9, 2017 our club celebrated Friendship Day with the CMU international students. The students hosted the event on CMU campus. We introduced our organization to the students with a presentation and photos of journeys hosted by our club and out-going journeys to other countries.

Western Colorado Friendship Force club was founded in 1982. The club has hosted over 38 in-coming journeys and over 29 out-going journeys to other countries. These opportunities have been life changing to all members.

Unfortunately Friendship Day will not be celebrated with an event this year due to COVID. On March 1 – Remember-----

“A World of Friends is a World of Peace”

In Friendship, Sue Palmer

Pictures at CMU in recent years when Friendship Day was celebrated. Recognize anyone?????



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Co-Chairs: Rebekah McDermott &
Claudia Kellar

Friendship Force Western Colorado (FFWC) has 31 paid members at the conclusion of our renewal time. Because many of you gave over the dues amount, there is also an additional \$175.00 in the fund. Another show of belief that we are heading for better time.

Thank you Claudia Kellar and Kathy Nielsen for your help contacting the members about renewing. And thanks to Dan Clancy, Treasurer, for handling the money and paying the annual fee to Friendship Force International.

By separate email you will receive a page of membership updates and deletions. I have endeavored to put the information into a format that would not only be easy for you to read, but also allow you to copy, cut and paste into your current book. In the back of your Membership Directory there are blank pages for new information. Please insert any new information into your current 2020 Membership Book, as we are not printing books in 2021.

Member News

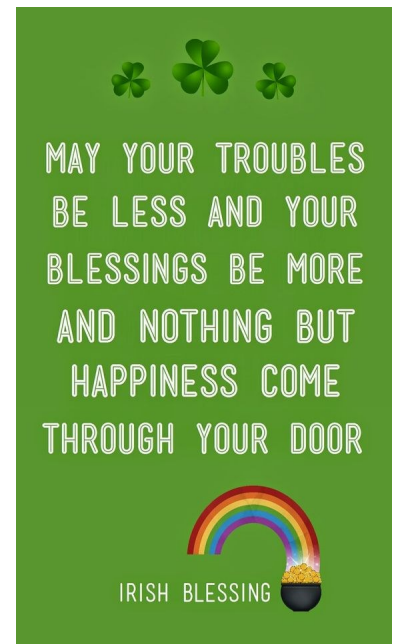
Many of our members have received their vaccines and are eager to cautiously venture out and mingle more.

Visiting Book Cliff Gardens and Mount Garfield Gardens will put a step in your walk and a smile in your heart.... Plants are waiting for all the gardeners.

Some personal trips to families are on the planning table for some of our members. Sure hope you can make the trips soon!

And please continue to send articles, etc for insert into the Newsletter. We want to hear from YOU!

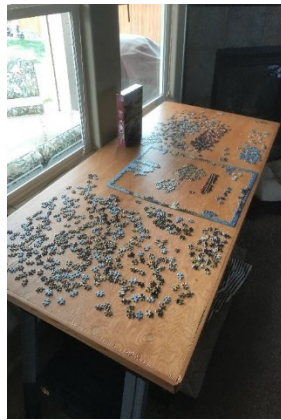
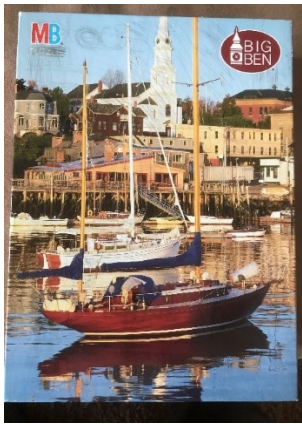
So from this Irish (part, the biggest part) gal, for the Month of March, I want to leave you with this thought.....



IT'S PUZZLING—by Dan Clancy

(What I did with my Covid-19 summer)

Everyone loves a puzzle. Not the murder mystery, who-done-it kind. I mean the kind that you solve on a flat surface, sometimes a BIG flat surface. Since the stay-at-home order imposed on us last May, I have been re-introduced to puzzles. Puzzles are a thing we *USED* to do. I had to search through bedroom closets, and coat closets, and boxes in the garage to find the couple of puzzles we kept from years past. After solving those, I traded with neighbors.



Once I found our stored puzzles, I had a great time absorbed by the challenge of finding and placing those tiny pieces. There is a real satisfying feeling in finding each piece. Most are discovered after a long search for a certain color, or part of an image. Later in the searching, I started looking for pieces by shape and laying the pieces out in groups by shape.



IT'S PUZZLING—by Dan Clancy (cont)

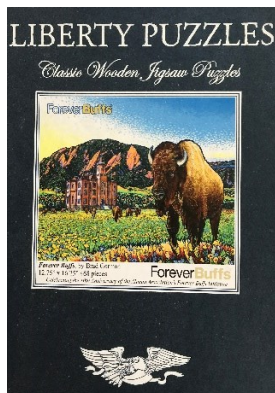


This puzzle had an extra piece!

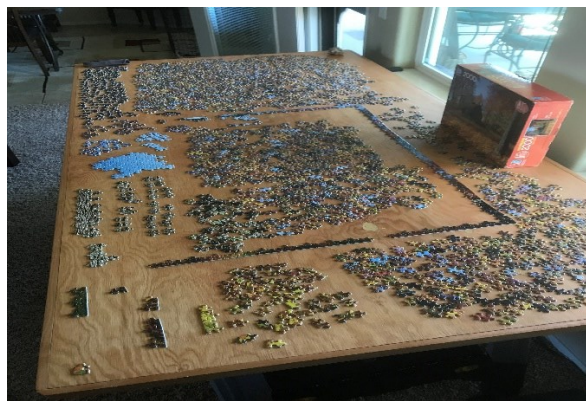
Beware of the puzzle
with a missing piece!



There are many different sizes and makers of puzzles. An interesting puzzle DJ received as a gift had wooden pieces in an unusual variety of shapes. It depicts the University of Colorado and its mascot. Here is DJ just beginning to work on it. “Forever Buffs!”



I have no trouble with the 500 and 1,000 piece puzzles, but I was overwhelmed by the 2,000 piece puzzle I tried. It took an enormous space to lay out all the pieces and have an area in the center for solving. The picture was not diverse enough, and the pieces were all the same shape and size. I got the border, the cabin, and some tree trunks. I gave up after four weeks.



I think working on puzzles relates back to our species being hunter-gatherers. Covid-19 has robbed me of hunting in the grocery store, and other stores for that matter. I think this puzzle solving is satisfying a primal urge that has been unavailable to me the last several months. I am loving it and maybe you would, too. Give it a try!



friendship force
WESTERN COLORADO

FFWC Leadership Council

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Club Websites

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New Mexico	friendship-force-new-mexico.org
Pikes Peak	friendshipforcepikespeak.com
Utah/Salt Lake City	friendshipforceofutah.org

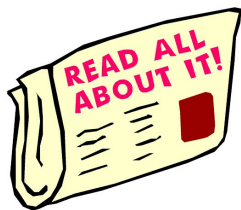
Have a friend who likes to travel?

Share with them the FFI website and let them see all the great places they can go.

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



Find us on:
facebook®



NEEDED: ideas for virtual events, book suggestions, local merchants to support, stories of your past travels, pictures of what you do during the year, jokes, etc.

Send to ffwcnewsletter@gmail.com.

Deadline for your submissions is the 25th of each month.
The Newsletter is sent to you via email the 1st of the month.

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Leadership Council holds a Zoom Meeting on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m. Any member of the Club is welcomed to attend this Council Meeting.

Ellen Bradley, Secretary, can set you up to attend a Zoom Leadership Meeting.

Email her at FFWCsecretary@gmail.com.

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
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**CHANGING THE
WAY YOU SEE
THE WORLD**