



friendship force
WESTERN COLORADO



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Western Colorado

EDITOR: REBEKAH MCDERMOTT

April, 2024

Inside the Cover:

- **Monthly Council Meeting:**
Tues, April 2nd 9:00am
Sue Palmer's Home
Members Welcome
- **General Meeting April 20th 2pm**
Jeanine Wehner "Unsinkable Uncle Victor"
A true story about the Titanic
- **Salt Lake City Trip April 25-27.** Room
for a a few more. Contact Dan
- **Annual Picnic St. May 18th-** See flyer
- **Council Notes** contains lots of details

April Birthdays

- 6 Claudia Kellar
- 7 Don Moyer
- 18 Tandie Morgan
- 20 Susan Rankin
- 22 Verna Bunn
- 29 Linda Gordon



Planet vs. Plastics

For Earth Day 2024 on April 22nd, EARTHDAY.ORG is unwavering in our commitment to end plastics for the sake of human and planetary health, demanding a 60% reduction in the production of ALL plastics by 2040.

Commit to reducing your use of single-use plastics in your daily life. Say **no** to plastic bags, straws, water bottles, and other disposable items. Seek sustainable alternatives instead.

FFI is in the forefront of helping with this battle and is encouraging clubs to take a stand.

Suggestions welcomed from you on how we can help reduce the plastic pollution.

Contact Becky Brooks, DJ Clancy, Rebekah McDermott with your thoughts.

Council Leader Message

Our club is off to a fantastic start this year and I believe we are just beginning to “Spring Into Action”! As you can see by our upcoming events, we have a lot going on.

Rebekah and Joy will be kicking off April with our **“New Member’s Coffee”** on **April 4th** at the New Covenant Baptist Church from 2:00 - 3:30. We will enjoy pastries, coffee, and good conversations. It’s a great way to get better acquainted with each other and find out more about FFWC.



The Outbound Journey to **Schwerin, Germany** is right around the corner. This journey is from **April 28th through May 5th**. It’s taken a lot of preparation and coordination by the Journey Coordinators as well as the Ambassadors to pull this trip together. There will be eight traveling from our club. We anticipate seeing a presentation after their return.

There are still opportunities to volunteer for the Inbound Journey from **Tokyo, Japan** that takes place from **June 6th - 13th**. We need hosts for the small dinner parties, drivers on the day trips, and help with the Welcome Brunch and the Farewell Dinner. Getting to know these Ambassadors and learning more about their culture will be a great experience. If you want to be involved, call Dan or me.

The Lunch Bunch will be at **The Goat & Clover Tavern on April 10th**. We meet at 11:30. We are so glad to have Karen Taylor back, and she has picked back up as this group’s coordinator.

Our presenter at the **General Meeting, April 20th at 2pm** is Jeanine Wehner. She will be performing a skit based on a true story about her Uncle who was a stowaway on the Titanic. I have a feeling that this presentation will be more than impressive.

This month’s trip is to **Salt Lake City** for the **Tulip Festival and the Mormon Choir Rehearsal**. We depart on **April 25th and return on the 27th**. There is still time to sign up for this trip. Contact Dan or Rebekah.

Lastly, we need volunteers to help with the **Bookfair at Barnes & Noble on May 11th**. If you can commit to a few hours, your time will be greatly appreciated. Contact Becky or Dan if you can volunteer.

In Friendship,

Becky

- Many club members have shared their concern over excess plastic in our environment. Your Council has listened and is taking steps to cut down on the club's plastic usage.
 1. Beginning with the March meeting, the club no longer purchases individual plastic water bottles. Rather, the club bought a replacement water bottle for the cooler at our meeting place. You are encouraged to bring your own water bottle—seems like everyone has one anyway.
 2. Styrofoam is replaced with disposable coffee cups and plates. For our meetings at the church, we will use ceramic cups from the kitchen. At the March meeting everyone seemed quite pleased with this change and enjoyed seeing a variety of coffee cups in use.
 3. The club has purchased ivory colored fabric, washable table cloths in place of using disposable plastic ones.
 4. The Council purchased water bottles imprinted with our FFWC logo. They were unveiled at the March meeting and are available for \$5 each. These bottles will also be part of the Inbound Journey “goodie bags” given to the Ambassadors

If you have other suggestions on ways to eliminate plastic, please let one of the Council Members know.

- **Think of Others.** Your health and well-being is most important. Please be considerate of others if you are sick (or even think you are sick) and refrain from attending any club activities until you are sure you are well.
- Karen Taylor is back on task publicizing FFWC. Welcome back and glad you are all healed. If you have suggestions for ways to get the word out about our club, please contact her. The “blurb” in the BEACON has been improved and should be in the April publication. Let us know what you think of this improvement.
- **LUNCH BUNCH.** Karen Taylor is now able to resume making our lunch reservations. In April we go to “The Goat & Clover” in downtown GJ. Time 11:30. Look for Signup Genius or call Karen with your reservation. 12 of us enjoyed our time at Munchies in March.
- New member #8 has joined us—Beverly Spevere joined 3/21/24 and is already volunteering to help. She will home host two Ambassadors during the Japan inbound journey. Welcome Beverly, and thank you for stepping right up to learn while doing.
- **BARNES & NOBLE BOOK FAIR Sat. 5/11. 9-7.** One of our two annual fund raisers. Contact Dan or Becky. 2-hours slots available at 2 tables: gift wrap or club info. Ask another member to join you.

Have a friend who likes to meet new people and enjoy different cultures while participating in day trips, community activities and travel- here and abroad?

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

FFWC DAY TRIP—Uravan and Nucla March 29th



L-R: Elsie Blink, Sue Moyer, Dan Clancy, Rebekah McDermott, DJ Clancy, Jim Musso. L-R Poppy Woody, Shirley Schultz, Kathy Nielsen, Tandie Morgan (a brand new member who planned the agenda and made reservations) Margerite Collard, Karen Taylor, Don Moyer (Herb Deppe was in his car). Joy Allen took the picture.

Behind the group is the canyon where the flume was originally built. It ran 12 miles



Herb & DJ sharing.

Sarah shows Jim how to ID an item with his phone.



Tandie grew up in this area. Sharing with Karen. The Uravan Museum is filled with the uniqueness of how uranium played a part.

Her friend, Sarah, is one of the museum curators. Having history shared by two who lived part of it was eye opening.

Joy talking with another curator.

Dan and Sarah sharing about the history.

A DELIGHTFUL DAY...

GOOD FELLOWSHIP.

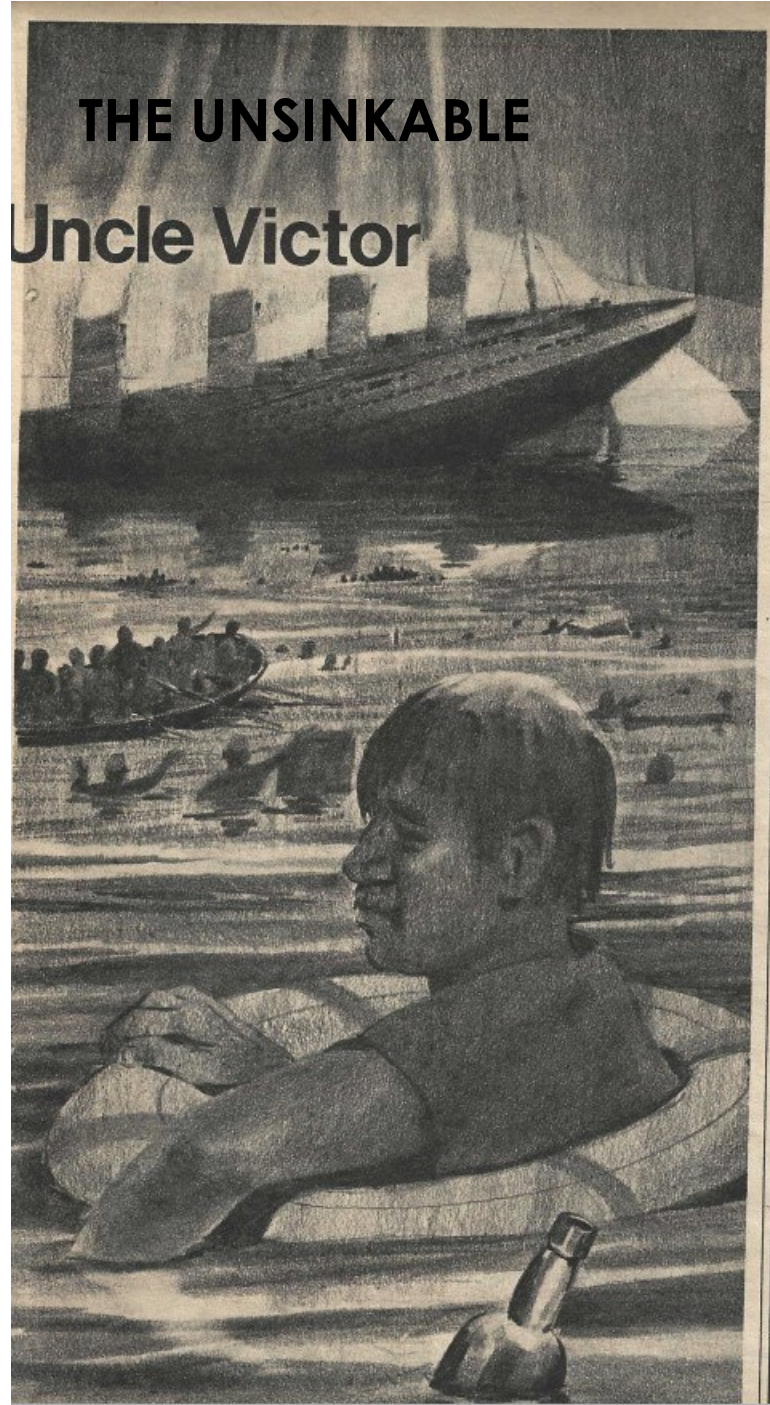




Jeanine Wehner Presents A Real Life Story...

Here This Remarkable Story, enacted for us by Jeanine. It's About Her Uncle Victor.

April 20th 2pm
New Covenant Baptist Church.



SALT LAKE CITY - TULIP FESTIVAL 2024

THURSDAY thru SATURDAY, APRIL 25 - 27



Tulip Festival at Ashton Gardens



Tabernacle Choir Practice

<u>Approximate Times</u>	<u>Destination/Activity/Cost Estimate</u>	<u>Time</u>
Thursday, April 25		
9:45am	Meet at Dinosaur Museum parking lot. Fruita Visitor Center (I-70, exit 19) Gather luggage and load vehicles.	
10:00am - 11:30am	Drive to Green River, UT.	(1.5 HRS)
11:30am – 12:30pm	Eat lunch at Tamarisk Restaurant (\$15-20)	(1 HR)
12:30pm – 3:30pm	Drive to Hotel near Salt Lake City	(3 HRS)
3:30pm	Check in at Hotel (La Quinta, South Jordan, UT) (two nights) (estimated \$80/night/person, shared room – two people)	
3:30pm – 5:00pm	Rest time	(1.5 HRS)
5:00pm – 6:30pm	Dinner: Pizza Delivery to Lobby (\$15)	(1.5 HRS)
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Drive to the Temple	(30 min)
7:30pm – 9:30pm	Tabernacle Choir Practice	(2 HRS)
9:30pm – 10:00pm	Drive back to Hotel	(30 min)

Friday, April 26

9:30am	Meet in Hotel Lobby		
9:30am – 10:30am	Continental Breakfast in lobby.		(1 HR)
10:30am – 11:00am	Drive to Tulip Festival		(30 min)
11:00am – 1:00pm	Tulip Festival at Ashton Gardens	(\$26)	(2 HRS)
1:00pm – 2:30pm	Lunch at Trellis Café	(\$20)	(1.5 HR)
2:30pm – 3:00pm	Drive to Hotel		(30 min)
3:00pm – 5:30pm	Open for shopping or sightseeing		(2.5 HRS)
5:30pm – 6:00pm	Drive to restaurant for dinner	(not yet chosen)	(30 min)
6:00pm – 7:30pm	Dinner	(\$15-25)	(1.5 HRS)
7:30pm – 8:00pm	Drive back to Hotel		(30 min)

Saturday, April 27

8:30am	Meet in Hotel lobby		
8:30am – 9:00am	Checkout of Hotel and drive to breakfast restaurant		(30 min)
9:00am – 10:30am	Eat breakfast	(\$15-20)	(1.5 HR)
10:30am – 12:00pm	Shopping or sightseeing		(1.5 HRS)
12:00pm – 4:30pm	Drive back to Fruita, two stretch breaks along the way		(4.5 HRS)
4:30pm	Arrive back at Fruita Dinosaur Museum.		

Cost estimates:

Meals (1 breakfast, 2 lunches, 2 dinners)	\$ 130.
Hotel (2 nights, shared room)	\$ 160.
Gas (per person - paid to car driver)	\$ 30.
Activities (tulip festival \$26)	\$ 30.
Shopping (grandkids, yourself, etc.)	<u>\$ 50.</u>
Total estimate:	\$ 400.

Tulip Festival Additional Expense if needed: Golf Cart - \$50 for 2 hours.

*** Please have \$15 CASH for the pizza. Will be collected when pizza is ordered.**

You're invited to a

Picnic in
the **PARK**

Saturday, May 18th 4-7pm

FFWC's Annual Celebration

“W.A. LONG” Pavilion
at Long Family Park

Entrance from E ½ (Orchard Ave) next to the High School
Ample Parking and short distance to restrooms

**Club Providing Chicken
(Fried/Baked)**

BYOB

Please Bring Sides

**RSVP: Sign Up Genius or contact
Rebekah or Dan by Monday, May 13th.**

Dan Clancy: The Evolution of a Leader

In 1996 Atlanta was preparing to “Welcome the World” for the Summer Olympic Games. The Olympic Committee enlisted the help of numerous non-profit agencies in the metro area to provide home hosting to international visitors who were not athletes or athletic staff. We’d been living in the Atlanta suburbs for nearly 20 years and we thought this would be the perfect opportunity for us to introduce our then 10 and 13 year old sons to the joy of learning about other cultures. We signed up to host through the Friendship Force Atlanta Chapter, little knowing that it would change our lives.

We were paired with Luis from Santiago, Chile. He was the manager of the only Chilean Boxer in the games. Dan jumped right in ferrying Luis to and from the Olympic Village. I could see Dan’s enthusiasm growing with each day. It was a wonderful experience and Dan was eager for more.



The Atlanta Club had more international exchanges (as they were called at the time) and Dan was eager to host as often as possible. Dan set about planning excursions for the free days and relished showing our ambassadors around North Georgia.

(cousins from T’blisi,
Georgia)



When Nastya and Yelena from Saratov, Russia told Dan how much they loved *Gone with the Wind*, he immediately thought of taking them to The Margaret Mitchell house where they could see the very typewriter on which it was written.



(Students from South Korea)

More than once he planned trips to the Water Park and Six Flags Over Georgia because we had young ambassadors who he knew would enjoy those activities. I think by now you can see why Dan is our Day Trip Planner extraordinaire!

After a few years, being a Board Member beckoned and Dan became the club’s webmaster, posting pictures and keeping our members informed as well as encouraging others to join us.

It was also Dan who discovered a late opening in a club exchange to Japan and went about securing a place for our then 17 year old son. It was the trip of a lifetime for him and spurred us to join an exchange to Norway later that year.

All this time Dan was watching, listening and learning.

Fast forward to our move to Colorado in 2017. While driving on the Mesa we saw the “Adopt a Highway” sign for FFWC. Now we knew we had moved to the right place! Dan investigated and we met with Claudia and Barb S. who were then the membership chairs. Joining this club allowed Dan to put into action all that he had learned. He agreed to be the Council Member at-large, then Treasurer and in 2020 (of all years!) he became president. Despite the pandemic, he set about finding ways to keep our members engaged. Once vaccines became available he set about planning day trips while also ensuring everyone’s health and safety. After stepping down as president he wasn’t finished. He puts his prior experiences to work helping plan club events with Rebekah.

It’s clear to see that Friendship Force is in Dan’s blood and I think we’re all the better for it.

You can always count on Dan being right in the middle of FUN!. From Juan Bandito in our Bullets n' BBQ Mystery Lunch to representing our club on stage at the Glenwood Springs Vaudeville, he leads the way for fellowship, laughter and good old fashioned fun.



The many hats Dan has/is wearing. Club Leader, Journey Coordinator, Co-Event Coordinator, Treasurer, etc. Whatever the need, he **steps in**. Dan, we appreciate you.



When COVID hit and everything shut down in March 2020, Dan made sure our club stayed connected through ZOOM meetings.



Dan & DJ welcome the opportunity to home host and do so with open arms.

Below you see him giving a commemorative certificate to the UK leader at the Farewell Dinner held in Dan & DJ's home



First meeting together and in person after COVID.. Council Leader--- and proud to have us all together



One of many Day Trips he plans for the group. Admiring the "Ute Council Tree" in Delta.



Contributed by DD Clancy and Rebekah McDermott.

Proposed FFWC 2024 Events Calendar

Changes in Red
Updated: 3/27/2024

<p style="text-align: center;">January</p> <p>1/02(Tues) - Council Meeting – New and Old council members attend. 1/10(Wed) – Lunch Bunch – Devil’s Kitchen, CMU 1/20(Sat) - General Meeting – Proposed 2024 Events Calendar, Decide 2025 Outbound trips, Club Updates. 1/26(Fri) - Day Trip – Grand Junction Art Center, lunch at McCalister’s Deli</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February</p> <p>2/06(Tues) - Council Meeting 2/14(Wed) – Lunch Bunch - Ocotillo 2/17 – Murder Mystery Party Luncheon– LETHAL LUAU At New Covenant Baptist Church at 12PM, \$15 in advance. Hawaiian clothes encouraged, but optional. 2/28(Wed) –Day Trip – Atomic Legacy Cabin, lunch at Sunrise Restaurant.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">March</p> <p>3/05(Tues) - Council Meeting 3/13(Wed) – Lunch Bunch - Munchies 3/16(Sat) - General Meeting –Presentation – by Sandy Miller on her travel after the World Conference. 3/29(Fri) – Day Trip – Nucla, Uravan Museum, lunch</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">April</p> <p>4/02(Tues) - Council Meeting 4/10(Wed) – Lunch Bunch – Goat & Clover 4/20(Sat) – General Meeting – Jeanine tells true story. 4/25(Thurs)–27(Sat) – Overnight Day Trip – Salt Lake City – Mormon Choir Rehearsal and Tulip Festival. 4/28(Sun) – 5/5(Sun) - OUTBOUND JOURNEY – SCHWERIN, GERMANY</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">May</p> <p>5/07(Tues) – Council Meeting 5/08(Wed) – Lunch Bunch 5/11(Sat) – BookFair @ Barnes & Noble, 9am–7pm 5/18(Sat) - General Meeting – “Summer” Picnic outside at Long Family Memorial Park shelter. 5/31(Fri) – Day Trip – North Rim Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Lunch at Zack’s BarBQ in Hotchkiss.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June</p> <p>6/04(Tues) - Council Meeting 6/06(Thurs) -13(Thurs) – INBOUND JOURNEY – TOKYO, JAPAN 6/15(Sat) – General Meeting – Program OPEN 6/28 (Thurs) – Day Trip – Meeker White River Museum, Lunch in Meeker, and Rifle Falls on return to GJ.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">July</p> <p>7/02(Tues) - Council Meeting 7/10(Wed) – Lunch Bunch 7/20(Sat) - General Meeting / Program OPEN 7/25 to 7/29 – Driving Trip to Santa Fe. (Thurs - Mon) Three nights in Santa Fe, 1 night in Salida.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">August</p> <p>8/06(Tues) - Council Meeting 8/14(Wed) – Lunch Bunch 8/17(Saturday) - Ice Cream Social – inside at Church and General Meeting – events updates. 8/23(Fri) – Day Trip – Breckenridge - lunch, downtown shopping, and Gondola ride to ski area.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">September</p> <p>9/03(Tues) - Council Meeting 9/11(Wed) – Lunch Bunch 9/14(Sat) - General Meeting – Program OPEN – moved to one week earlier due to Inbound Journey. 9/24(Tuesday) – Grand Mesa Road Cleanup (with the Washington DC club) (lunch at Wagon Wheel) 9/20(Fri) – 27(Fri) - INBOUND JOURNEY – WASHINGTON, DC No Day Trip</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">October</p> <p>10/1(Tues) - Council Meeting 10/09(Wed) - Lunch Bunch 10/16(Wed)–23(Wed) - OUTBOUND JOURNEY – QUAD CITIES 10/25 – Day Trip – Palisade Wine Tasting, Alpaca Farm 10/26 – General Meeting – Program OPEN – moved to one week later due to Outbound Journey.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">November</p> <p>11/05(Tues) - Council Meeting 11/13(Wed) – Lunch Bunch 11/16(Sat) - General Meeting – Election of 2025 Officers No Day Trip</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">December</p> <p>12/03(Tues) - Council Meeting 12/07(Saturday) - Christmas Party, 4pm 12/11(Wed) – Lunch Bunch 12/20(Fri) - BookFair Fundraiser, Barnes & Noble No Day Trip</p>

JOURNEYS NEWS: STATUS and UPDATES

Updated: 2/27/24

Updates and Changes in RED

2024

OUTBOUND to Schwerin, Germany - #24066

- Ambassador Coordinator: **Sue Palmer and Susan Rankin**
- Status: April 28 to May 5, 7 nights. **9 ambassadors traveling.**
- Update: Schwerin can host up to 13 Ambassadors. The Co-coordinators are accepting Ambassador applications. First journey meeting has been held. **Ambassador & Host matching form has been sent.**

INBOUND from Tokyo, Japan - #24086

- Host Coordinator: **Becky Brooks and Dan Clancy**
- Status: June 6 to June 13, 7 nights. **There will be 10 ambassadors.**
- Update: Yukie Tsutsumi is Tokyo club president and contact for now. Itinerary and budget estimate has been sent to Tokyo Coordinator. Health & Mobility Checklist has been sent to Tokyo Ambassador Coordinator. **Ambassador names and info is being assembled by Tokyo and sent.**

INBOUND from National Capital Area - #24160

- Host Coordinator: **Rebekah McDermott and Joy Allen**
- Status: September 20 – to September 27, 7 nights.
- Update: Set the max # of ambassadors at 12. Itinerary and budget have been completed. FFNCA Host Coordinators are Anne Chase and Bob Healy. **No additional information at this time.**

OUTBOUND to Quad Cities, USA - #24181

- Ambassador Coordinator: **Dan Clancy and Susan Branson**
- Status: October 16 – 23, 7 nights.
- Update: We will fly into Moline, IL – MLI. Reached out to the FFQC club journey coordinator to begin building our outbound journey. FFQC host coordinator is Deb Steele. They will communicate back to us with Itinerary. They can accommodate up to 15 ambassadors with a minimum of 10. **No new information at this time.**

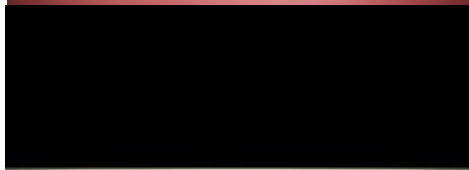


ANOTHER WOODEN BALL!! would it kill the makers of avocados to put a different toy inside

I wonder how police on bikes arrest people. "Alright, get in the basket."

Being told you're appreciated is one of the simplest and most uplifting things you can hear.

I don't care how old I get. If I'm in a store and I see a toy with "Try me" on it, I'm pushing those buttons.



WHEN YOU ARE STRESSED YOU EAT ICE CREAM CAKE, CHOCOLATE, AND SWEETS. WHY? BECAUSE STRESSED SPELT BACKWARDS IS DESSERTS.



I wanted to start eating healthily and grow all my own Food... but I can't seem to find any donut seeds.
aunty acid



aunty acid
facebook.com/auntyacid
If we were all forced to wear a warning label, what would yours say?

Hugh Hefner became a multi millionaire staying home in his jammies... I'm not having the same result

There are 13 minerals that are essential for human life, and all of them can be found in wine. Coincidence? I think not.





FFWC Leadership Council

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



Share a picture of you and your family enjoying a Spring activity. What Spring activities would you want the club to consider doing?

Send to rebekahmcdermott@gmail.com.

Deadline for your submissions is the 25th of each month.

The Newsletter is sent via email the 1st of the month.

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.



Friendship Force Western Colorado

Friendship Force International
Western Colorado Chapter
P.O. Box 3665
Grand Junction, CO 81502

ABOUT THE CLUB

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

General meetings are held at New Covenant Baptist Church, 3196 F Rd, Grand Junction, CO 81504.

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

Check our Facebook [Friendship Force Western Colorado](#) or the Newsletter for updates.

A World of Friends is a World of Peace!