



friendship force
NORTHERN COLORADO



Cathie McCallum
Editor & Publisher

2022

July-September

Estes Park, Fort Collins, Greeley, Loveland, Windsor and Surrounding Areas

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Well, we did it! We finally had an in-person meeting at First Christian Church at 2000 N. Lincoln in Loveland. It was nice to get everyone out of their little boxes on screen and into a new space at the church. Thanks to everyone who helped get everything organized and together for our gathering. Thanks to those who brought goodies to share including deviled eggs!

With members, new members, and guests not all knowing each other, we had brief introductions from everyone. It was fun to hear how each came to know about and join Friendship Force. Hopefully, we will be able to continue with in-person meetings in September.

LaDonna put together a slide presentation showing highlights of our last outbound journey to North Carolina for those that did not travel with us. Learn more about journeys scheduled for the near future.

See some of the highlights of the June mini journey to Sunrise Mine in Wyoming and check out the information for the next mini-journey to Georgetown. A great way to travel with friends!

Our CLEO's have proven to be very popular, with 15 to 20 people attending the last few CLEO's including BJ's in Fort Collins in April, Canton Palace in Loveland in May, and Meeker's: A Colorado Kitchen in Greeley in June. See pictures from these and information about upcoming CLEO here in the newsletter.

Our club is hosting the Annual Picnic with Cheyenne on Saturday, Aug. 13 at Edora Park, Ft Collins, starting at 12:30 pm. Our club will provide the meat, members will bring side dishes, and Cheyenne will provide sweets. Let me (Susan Mathre) know if you are coming and if you can help us get things set up. Please review the newsletter for all the upcoming events and activities for the next few months.

In Friendship, Susan Mathre

Thanks to all who
contributed
photos and
articles.



JUNE MEETING IN PERSON!

Fun on Journey to North Carolina



Quite a contrast from May of 2020 Newsletter!!

Susan Mathre, LaDonna Palm, and Ken Weaver: Ambassadors from Northern Colorado and FFCNC's renowned clown Lundee Amos at Harmon Park in Kernersville, NC on April 24, 2022. Our Farewell Potluck for our first Inbound Journey since 2019.

On April 20th seven of us – Ann and Rick Lohmeyer, Susan Mathre, Marcia Ross, Paulette and Ken Weaver and I, LaDonna Palm – packed our bags and headed to North Carolina for our first “completed” out-bound journey since 2018. The first five days were spent in the Greensboro/Winston-Salem area where we enjoyed art, theater and historic sites, along with beautiful weather, spectacular spring blossoms, great Southern Hospitality, and a healthy dose of fun. This picture graced the cover of their May newsletter.

From there we moved on to the Raleigh area for five more days of art, history, nature, and fun. The beautiful weather continued, as did the Southern hospitality.

Details and photos of the trip were shared at the FFNC June meeting.

Elected officers for 2023



FFNC Members present at the annual June meeting voted unanimously to accept the slate of officers presented by the nominating committee, after all four agreed to accept their nominations. Taking office at the January 2023 meeting are left to right; Marcia Ross, Secretary-Historian; Ken Weaver, President; Susan Mathre, Vice President; LaDonna Palm, Treasurer.



CLEO past and future

May in Loveland



June in Greeley



CLEO

11:30 Thursday, July 21,
Pho Lan, a Vietnamese restaurant
296 29th Avenue, Loveland
RSVP to RONA by Monday, July 18
970-744-9974

TBD:

August: Pam Morrison

September: Cathie McCallum

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

In order to gain a better understanding of the history of Friendship Force International and FF Northern Colorado, six of our newest members were able to attend a New Member Orientation in early June, hosted and facilitated by Marcia Ross. Attendees and their mentors who attended were as follows: Nancy Aley (mentored by Cathie McCallum), Rocky Padden (mentored by LaDonna Palm), Susanna Garner (mentored by Marilyn Garner), Lorraine Jansen (mentored by Rosemary Donovan who was unable to attend), and Gail Washecka (mentored by Marcia Ross). The new members unable to attend are Jan Rosman (mentored by Cathie), Karen Cox (mentored by LaDonna), Sylvia Miller (mentored by Marilyn) and Pam Morrison (mentored by Marcia). In addition to an overview of the overarching goals of Friendship Force, those present learned about the basics of our monthly meetings, special events and activities and also were given a "mini-dictionary" of FF jargon. Additionally, they learned about FFNC communication channels, how to sign up to apply to participate as an ambassador or host, what to expect as a Journey participant, ways to make incoming guest ambassadors feel more welcomed in their homes, and information on navigating the FFI website (which has recently been totally re-vamped). All other FFNC members are encouraged to try to get to know our newest members and help them feel welcomed and a valued part of our club.



April speaker: Anita Halverssen

Anita Halverssen, our guest speaker at our April 8 Zoom meeting, was born in Norway and earned a law degree at the University of Oslo before moving to the U.S. A former president of the Boulder chapter of the Sons of Norway, she talked about Norwegians immigrating to the U.S. The first known Norwegian to land on American soil is thought to be Leif Erikson who established a settlement in Newfoundland sometime between 970 and 1070. In 1633 Hans Bergen became one of the first settlers in New Amsterdam, later renamed New York. Full scale immigration didn't begin until around 1825 when a ship termed the Norsk Mayflower brought 52 passengers from Stavanger, Norway, to New York City to avoid religious persecution. In the next 100 years more than 800,000 Norwegians immigrated to the U.S., approximately one third of Norway's population. She noted that in 1942 the 99th Division of Norwegian Merchant Marines joined the better-known 10th Division for winter training at Camp Hale near Leadville. She named a long list of Norwegians that have contributed to our social and political history – from Priscilla Presley, Eliot Ness, Rick Steves, and Conrad Hilton to Walter Mondale, Hubert Humphrey, and Chief Justice Earl Warren.

She then switched to her second topic, climate change, and started by stating that recently the Arctic was 30 per cent warmer than normal and the Antarctic was 70 per cent warmer than normal. After that startling fact, she asked three questions: (1) Must we change? (2) Can we change? and (3) Will we change?

Obviously, she said, we must change. Carbon monoxide in our atmosphere acts like a greenhouse, trapping the sun's heat and raising the oceans temperatures. While higher average temperatures pull moisture out of the soil, causing droughts and subsequently fires in some parts of the world, in other parts the warmer ocean water evaporates faster, causing more precipitation and subsequent flooding. Warmer ocean waters also make for stronger, more frequent hurricanes. She cited many examples of natural disasters that are occurring much more often than in the past.

Can we change? Yes, she said, we can change. We have the technology. In the U.S. power generated by wind is now 20 times greater than was expected, and solar power is 132 times greater than anticipated. Best of all, the cost is decreasing. We also have the ability to capture carbon dioxide, liquify it, and bury it deep underground. Some countries are approaching their goal of 100 per cent renewable energy.

But, will we change? Improvements so far are not enough. She said that the only way to win the battle is to have a systemic change from the top down.

Note: I was able to find her book The Dirty Network through Hoopla at the Loveland library. This is a fictional murder mystery based on the oil industry's efforts to silence the scientists that are trying to warn the public about global warming.

September speaker: Gerry Forney

Gerry Forney, President of FF Denver, will present his Balkans Rail Adventure at our Friday, September 9th regular meeting. In 2016 Gerry, his wife Irene Ludwig, and long-time Friendship Force member Dave Bentzin toured the former Yugoslavia by rail for sixteen days. Gerry's observations will also provide comparison and insight into the present-day situation in Ukraine. The in-person meeting at the Loveland First Christian Church, 2000 N Lincoln begins at 7:00pm.



MAY SPEAKER AT GLOBAL VILLAGE MUSEUM



Leisa Taylor
Outreach Coordinator

Losel Dolls



During the Journey with our ambassadors from FF Lake Simcoe, Ontario, Canada, **Leisa Taylor, Outreach Coordinator of the Global Village Museum**, gave a very special presentation on the history and significance of their collection of Losel Dolls that had been donated by former FFNC member, and Global Village co-founder Jeanne Nash. Each of the 50 exquisitely handcrafted Tibetan dolls in this collection has a unique facial expression and hand stitched clothing. They represent the 5 categories of Government Officials & Aristocrats, Monastic and Religious Dress, Lhamo Opera, Ritual Dancers, and Regional Clothing. All dolls were handmade by Tibetan Buddhist Monks who were living in exile in India. Leisa explained that over 500 million practicing Buddhists lived in Tibet at an average elevation of 15,000 feet, sharing a border with Mt. Everest. In the 1950s, China invaded and wanted to take over all of Tibet, causing the death of thousands and the destruction of more than 6000 Buddhist monasteries, with only about a dozen surviving. The Dalai Lama and about 700 other monks escaped to India and moved into exile at the Drepung Loseling Monastery where they needed to find a productive way to spend their time, raise money to support the monastery and use their artistic skills. The Losel Doll project was started in 1983 as a way for the monks to preserve the tradition of Tibetan costumes and customs while making innovative use of the artistic heritage for which many monks were known. Each doll stood 17-19" inches tall. The highest quality materials were used for the clothing and beadwork. The hand-painted heads were made of clay, and the hands were cast in silver to prevent breakage. Each doll took about 6 people 5-6 weeks to complete. More than 3,000 of the dolls were created.

Jeanne was fascinated by these dolls and their history and used her own money to acquire 50 dolls, which were purchased directly from the monks and shipped from India to Denver. Customs officials frequently took the heads off the dolls to search for drugs or other contraband, so they stopped attaching the heads and sent them in a separate shipment. There are several collections of these dolls in museums around the world, the largest of which is in Geneva, Switzerland. The collection Jeanne donated to the Global Village Museum is one of the largest in North America. The dolls are a reminder of a way of life that is now gone forever.



Mini Journey to Sunrise, Wyoming!

Friday we visited Fort Laramie



Our guide from the 1800s made the tour more enjoyable



Captain's Living Quarters

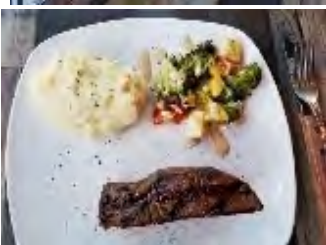


Rocky and Pam check out the saloon!

Dinner at Stockmen and Miner's Steakhouse



Shared steak dinner



We enjoyed an excellent dinner at the oldest bar in Wyoming (Hartville, population 64) holding Liquor License #1. "Unruly" guests are kept overnight in a building behind the restaurant. Shared steak dinners are available.





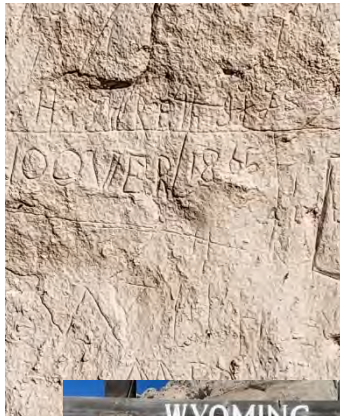
Sunrise Mine Tour Saturday



John Voight who bought the whole village, lectured to a large crowd seated in front of the YMCA



Other Nearby Historic Sights



Happy Hour with Pizza at the Bunk House Motel in Guernsey



Mini Journey to Georgetown Railroad!



All Aboard!!!

Join the fun and come with us to ride the historic Georgetown Railroad on Tuesday, July 26. We'll meet at 10:00 a.m. in Georgetown to ride the train to Silver Plume. Admittedly, there's not much to do in Silver Plume besides wander the streets of the old mining town and visit the George Rose Museum. The museum is housed in a restored 19th century school room and ore carts and other mining artifacts highlight the town's rich mining history.

After about an hour in Silver Plume, we will board the next train back to Georgetown. The train will make one stop on the way back and those who have purchased tickets for the mine tour will disembark. Tickets for the mine tour are an additional \$22 and there are two options. One includes gold panning (and you can keep anything you find) and their other option is an extended tour, going deeper into the mine. Those not going on the mine tours will continue to Georgetown where they can explore the fun town until the mine-goers return and meet for lunch. The choice of restaurants is open. Any ideas??

I apologize to those whom I misinformed that the price is only \$3.00. Some very deceptive advertising showed the original price – not today's price. Today the regular price is \$30.95 and \$28.95 for seniors. However, if we have a group of 20 or more and make reservations by July 12, the group rate is \$26.95.

Please let LaDonna Palm know by July 10 if you want to go. Phone (651) 302-2024 and email dnlpalm@aol.com.

Mini wine tasting Journey !

How about a September wine tasting at **BookCliff Vineyards in Boulder!** There are two options:

(1) Sample their wines for \$10-\$15. (2) Take a full tour with wine tasting and paired food by Ken's friend Suz Stewart for \$40 per person. Let Ken know your preference this summer.





Outbound journeys

HURRY! November 2022 to Australia with FFDenver

There are two remaining slots for the **FFDenver Journey to Australia November 8-24, 2022**. The journey includes **7-night homestay with the FF Blue Mountains club, two days in a hotel in Sydney, and 7-night homestay with the FF Bundaberg club**. The estimated **Journey Fee is \$2,200** plus transportation from Denver to Sydney and other basic expenses. The Journey coordinators are making a set of plane and train reservations for travel within Australia for the ten current ambassadors. The sooner they hear from interested participants, the better the chances of being on the same domestic flight. If you are seriously interested, please send **an application, a copy of the health and mobility form, and check made out to Friendship Force Denver for \$1,200** (which is the sum of the first two deposits: \$275 and \$925.) Put "Blue Mountain Bundaberg Journey" in the memo line of your check. **The current mailing address for the forms and check is Heidi McKelrath, 12293 W Cross Dr #306, Littleton, CO 80127. (Cell: 303-517-3042)**. This is different from the contact person in earlier newsletters.

2022 outbound to Connecticut POSTPONED

The journey to FFCT has been postponed at this time due to the inability to secure a minimum of nine ambassadors for the six night journey September 24-30. Exceptionally high airfares and the short stay are the main factors for the lack of interest on the part of FFNC members.

2023 Outbound Journey to Canada

Friendship Force International (FFI) has confirmed our request to travel to Canada in 2023. Plan A is for twenty Northern Colorado ambassadors to be hosted in Ottawa, Canada's capitol city, from Wednesday, September 20th to Wednesday, September 27th. The Ottawa club visited Northern Colorado in September 2017.

A full day of travel will take us to the area of FF Lake Simcoe, Ontario, several hours north of Toronto, to be hosted there until October 2nd or 3rd by friends who visited us this May.

Each ambassador pays \$25 per night to FFI and \$25 per night to the host club. Thus, the base cost for 12 nights is \$600. The host club may need to also charge for agreed special outings or events. Each member individually arranges transportation before and after the journey. Travel between host clubs is calculated in the overall journey fee.

Some FFNC members are already talking about organizing visits to Canada's Maritime Provinces for a few days prior to arriving at FF Ottawa. Stay tuned!

Consider attending Journey Coordinator Training later this year then stepping up to apply to serve as Ambassador Journey Coordinator. The FFNC board recently approved paying the host club fees, usually \$25 per night, plus occasional special surcharges, for the ambassador coordinator as an incentive to assume the role and responsibilities.



Inbound Journeys

High Plains to High Alpine *GLOBAL THEME 2023*

Please consider joining the team which will develop our natural history and cultural history introduction to Northern Colorado scheduled for mid-July or mid-August 2023. The current model is to guide 15-20 ambassadors from around the world up from our High Plains to our High Alpine glaciers.

Maybe start at UNC's Michener Library mezzanine and borrow excerpts from James Michener's *Centennial*. Or start with an all-member dinner at the Platte River Fort east of Greeley, a replica of Bent's Fort. Greeley's Centennial Village highlights cattle culture, the white gold of sugar beets, and how Greeley and Fort Collins framed western water law. The sculptures of Loveland widen and extend so many of our stories. Modern Colorado State University complements Fort Collins historic downtown. With two days in Estes Park, there's the drive up Fall River Road and time to savor Rocky Mountain National Park. The Stanley Home and Steamer are part of a story as interesting as Stephen King's. What would Isabella Bird and Mountain Jim think about it all today?

E-mail Ken Weaver, interweaver@gmail.com, if you'd like to help design and build ten wonderful days in which we showcase the varied legacies and liveliness of Northern Colorado. Please consider joining the team's first meeting, at 4 pm, September 15, 2022, at 1725 12th Avenue in Greeley. After a potluck dinner, we may even watch the first episode or two of the Michener *Centennial* TV series, filmed here in Northern Colorado.

Inbound Albuquerque postponed. Stay tuned!

FFLake Simcoe, Ontario, Canada was here May 7-13, 2022

Thanks to all who helped host and interact with our eight ambassadors from the FF Lake Simcoe, Ontario, Canada, club. Our members were able to join in at the Colorado Model Railroad Museum in Greeley, the Rocky Mountain Bronze Shop in Loveland, the picnics at Benson Sculpture Garden and Sylvan Dale Ranch, and at the Global Village Museum in Fort Collins. Nina Kinze, Marilyn Garner's niece, made a wonderful presentation of Estes Park pioneer Anna Wolfram Dove. Two nights at the White Buffalo Lodge, YMCA of the Rockies, allowed a full day in Rocky Mountain National Park. By all reports, the week went very well.

[Check out the outbound journeys for a chance to visit FF Lake Simcoe in November, 2023.]



JOURNEYS & EVENTS

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2

CLEO

11:30 Thursday, July 21,
Pho Lan, a Vietnamese restaurant
296 29th Avenue, Loveland
RSVP to RONA by Monday, July 18
970-744-9974

CLEO details to be determined
August hosted by Pam Morrison
September hosted by Cathie McCallum

JULY 26

Mini Journey to Georgetown Loop
Train

SEPTEMBER (date tbd)
Winery tour to BookCliff Winery
in Boulder

**ANNUAL PICNIC
With FF CHEYENNE**

**EDORA PARK, Fort Collins
SATURDAY, AUGUST 13
12:30pm**

Chicken provided by FFNC
Bring a side dish to share
Cheyenne brings desserts

**High Plains to High Alpine
Team planning meeting
September 15, 4:00 pm
Weaver's home**

*Do you miss seeing yourself in the
little boxes on Zoom? >>>>>>>*

**2022 OFFICERS &
COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

PRESIDENT: Susan Mathre
VICE-PRESIDENT: Ken Weaver
SECRETARY/HISTORIAN: Marcia Ross
TREASURER: Ann Lohmeyer

Programs: Ken Weaver
Journey Coordinator: Marcia Ross
Newsletter Editors/Publishers:

Sue Cummins
Marilyn Garner
Cathie McCallum

Newsletter Reporters Coordinator:
Suzi Gossard

Photographers:
Cindy Paulson
Ed Brigden
Cathie McCallum

Website & Member Directory:

Facebook: Sue Cummins
Publicity: Anne Brown
Promotion: Thelma Slocum

CLEO & Game Nights
Membership: Cathie McCallum
Meeting Greeters: Willie Westdorp
Meeting Hospitality: Suzi Gossard
Meeting Music: Rosemary Donovan
FFNC Store: Debby Jones

If you are willing to help with any of the committees or would like to fill one of the open slots, please contact Susan Mathre, president.

