

11/11/2024 FFCNC board meeting via zoom

Present: Ray, Ralph, Donald, Roger, Sandra, Marta, Eleanor, Woody, Julie, Mary

Membership report from Eleanor:

Members who have paid dues (includes members joining after 6/1/2023) 71

Legacy Members 10

Total Membership Count for FFCNC (not FFI) 81

1. Recruitment:

Richard and Valerie Briggs. They have joined.

Cathy and Dan McLaughlin. They haven't attended any events since the Soup Social, but they always indicate they are still interested.

Luz Kahlrabi. She is dealing with family issues. We will check with Barbara North about when to resume invitations.

2. Dues collection will begin this month.

- a. International dues will remain at \$35 for 2025. [We agreed to keep dues at \$35 pp.]
- b. Like last year, I'll send a letter requesting 2025 dues, with instructions to mail them to me or bring them to the holiday party in December.
- c. We have three people who did not pay dues last year.: Cheryl Katz, Linda Kimrey and Valerie Stokes. We agreed to keep them on the list for one year and send the renewal request for 2025. If they don't pay dues for 2025, they will be dropped (unless they request and are eligible for Legacy status).

3. Ray and Eleanor are meeting with Susan Tague to establish data entry procedures for our website. We will invite Don to join us.

Communication as verbally reported by Don:

- Edits/clarifies information that members send him for the newsletter
- Susan Tague is working on a printable picture directory
- Will work with Eleanor to get list of members that need newsletters mailed to them
- After reading the by-laws, discovered that communications is supposed to be in charge of our website. Susan is currently being paid to do that.
- FFI international website does not include legacy members nor all the members who have only joined FFCNC. For now, we should use the FFCNC website.
- Ray mentioned that Don should be the only person that send communication to our club. If there is an exception to this, the sender should make sure they have the most up-to-date list of members. Don will send updated list to Barbara North (events announcements) and Ray.
- Don would like someone to replace him, but will remain in this position until that time.

Treasurer discussion:

There is \$86.00 left in the Moldova budget after all expenses....obviously a well-planned event!

The Prescott Restaurant charges for using a charge card. Marta had the club's checkbook at the farewell dinner so was able to avoid that extra expense.

Marta thanks everyone for giving her labeled receipts of expenses. e

Roger will do our 2024 audit at the first of the year (January or February)

Treasurer report from Marta:

- October 31 2024 Account Balance Information:
- Wells Fargo ending balance and ledger balance = \$6,182.60
- Expected expenses in November are recurrent Ionos monthly charge, inbound Moldova Journey expenses and annual FFCNC meeting/social event expenses.
- Winston Salem Foundation Balance 9/30/24 = \$17,747.39

Social as verbally reported by Sandra:

Our annual meeting/social will be held at the Kernersville Community House at 3pm on Sunday, December 1st. Barbara will send out a punchbowl invitation. Potential members can be invited. Desserts, fruit, and savory treats will be served. Sandra will contact the caterer we used for the welcome event for Moldova.

We will also be electing board members for 2025 and collecting dues (a table for this purpose should be set up for Eleanor to collect dues).

Sandra will check on scheduling a tour of Industries of the Blind and will look into an animal conservatory visit for next year.

Journey discussion:

Roger suggested that instead of a by-law change (which was tabled last month) that we confirm the journey coordinator policy that allows for non-transportation reimbursement in the situation that a new member must cancel their first journey with the club.

Harrisburg, PA reimbursed us for money that was not used due to the cancellation of 2 members that got sick and could not participate in the outbound journey. Roger will send a check request to Marta to reimburse the Dalley's.

The board agreed to inform FFI that we want one in-bound journey in 2026.

Roger is forming a planning committee to discuss how to share the duties involved in journeys. He will present this idea at the annual meeting. He will also ask Martha to talk about her recent out-bound special journey and ask Marta and Mary to talk about journeying with other clubs.

Journey report from Roger on next page:



Da

FFCNC Journey Report

As FFCNC Journey Activity is winding down for 2024 and we begin to plan for 2025 and 2026, below is a summary and reflection on this past year's activities.

2024

FF Knoxville	Inbound	April	
FF Dallas	Outbound	April	* Joined FF Calgary
FF Greater Harrisburg	Outbound	Sep	
FF Special Journey- Eastern Europe	Outbound	Sep	* Martha & Derek Brown
Open World - Moldova (Rule of Law)	Inbound	Oct	

Our pursuit of an international outbound to Israel was cancelled due to obvious circumstances.

Note that for those members interested in additional near term travel, 2024 and early 2025 journeys may still be possible by joining other clubs (Club to Club). See the Friendship Force International website/ Journeys.

- Examples -
- Ottawa, Can to San Jose, Costa Rica
 - Long Island to New Zealand
 - Lethbridge, Can to Brazil

Feel free to contact me with questions. Rogerpoplin@gmail.com

2025

Listed below are our 2025 journey assignments/requests:

FF Greater Harrisburg	Inbound	March 31- Apr 5
Open World - Moldova (Local Legislators)	Inbound	May 9 - 17



Db

FF Sacramento	Inbound	June 3 - 10
FF Greater Denver	Outbound	August

We have also requested to be placed on a "waitlist" for a possible international journey, but none has yet been offered.

Finally, FF Richmond is exploring the possibility of co-hosting a regional FFI Hiking, Biking, and Outdoor Sports journey with other chapters in this part of the country. They have reached out to us. FF Raleigh has shown interest. I, in turn, have reached out to a few of you to measure our interest, and, if others are interested, please let me know. Also, note the level of activity (Low Medium, High) and any other preferences you may have.

2026

The dates for the 2026 Journey Assignment Process has now begun.

First step is our "Inbound Hosting Availability" form due in early December. Next will be our Outbound Request form. A follow-up email will survey interest among members to those international destinations that are listed as possibilities. Change requests afterwards.

That's the protocol. I encourage questions, input.

In Friendship,

Roger Poplin
rogerpoplin@gmail.com
336-337-4434



Open World report:

We had a great “rule of law” program for the Moldova guests. Jane Walter did a debriefing. We found out how we can improve and the delegates appreciated our professionalism. The beach day was a resounding success.

Looking to the future for the 2025 board:

- Ray doesn't want to continue as president; he prefers to stay active with OW.
- Sandra will stay on the board as social chair if she can get more help.
- Eleanor will remain membership chair for one more year.
- Roger will remain journey coordinator for another year.
- Marta will also remain on the board for another year as treasurer.
- Don would prefer to hand over his duties with communication, but will stay on until replaced.
- Mary thinks the secretary job is a great way for a new person to get involved; she will continue if no one want to run for this position.

Next meeting is our annual meeting; we will meet at Kernersville Community House on December 1st at 3pm for refreshments and to vote on our new board.

Please bring your 2025 dues.