



friendship force

CENTRAL
NORTH CAROLINA

Our mission is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people.

February 2, 2022



There will be six more weeks of winter, [Punxsutawney Phil](#) predicted as he emerged from his burrow Wednesday to perform his Groundhog Day duties. Thousands of people from across the United States and other countries gathered to see Phil at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.

According to folklore, Spring would come early if he didn't see his shadow. The annual event has its origin in a German legend about a furry rodent.

Here in the Piedmont Region of North Carolina we have experienced similar Winter Weather with snow and ice still on the ground. But later this week the forecast for some rain may wash away the ice and snow and give us a break from the Winter Doldrums.

News of Journeys postponed and those hopefully scheduled.

Here is a copy of the email we received January 21, 2022 from Britton Holmes, our FFI coordinator for Open World Programs in Atlanta.

I'm very sorry to inform you all that American Councils and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs have made the difficult decision to postpone the February 13-27 ALEX program due to the current surge in COVID case rates across the country and around the world.

American Councils and ECA also expressed their gratitude for all of your work and were very disappointed they had to make this decision. They are discussing internally and with the Moldovan field office about what dates would be possible to reschedule. I'll share these potential dates with you as soon as possible, keeping in mind the dates of previous commitments that you shared with me earlier.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. And thank you for all of the hard work you have already put into the preparation for this program!

With gratitude to the FFCNC Members who helped with our ALEX program that we hope will take place later in the year.

Three Cheers to Martha Brown, Ralph Cauthen, Charles John, Peter Peiffer, Mary Davis, Laura Graham.

A special thank you to those members of FFCNC and others recruited by Martha Brown to serve as Home Hosts or Day Hosts. We hope you will be available to assist when the ALEX Program is rescheduled.

A debt of gratitude is also owed to Dr. Stephen Mackler, DDS of The Guilford Rotary Club for assistance with help from the State of North Carolina. We received support from Lora Sinigur, International Liaison of NC Secretary of State Department. Our Hope is that the students from the Republic of Moldova will be able to come to North Carolina in the near future, we are looking forward to their visit.

The next page of this Newsletter was created by Judy Greene, Journey Coordinator for our Upcoming April INBOUND Journey from Northern Colorado.

Please print the page and send it to Judy at judygreene155@Gmail.com or Judy Greene at 112 Corovan Court, Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Ground Hog Day is a good time to repeat our call for April home hosts—
Here is updated information.

WE NEED NIGHT HOSTS for our **INBOUND FF Northern Colorado** ambassadors. They (10-12) arrive Wednesday, April 20 and depart Monday, April 25 — 5 nights. ALL of the Colorado Ambassadors have had boosters and they will be taking PCR tests, etc. to travel. By FFCNC policy, ALL FFCNC hosts will also need to be boosted.

Our program plans are primarily outdoor activities or with space for social distancing!

WE NEED MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NIGHT HOSTS, DAY HOSTS, DRIVE, offer small group **DINNERS**, etc.—ALL helpers are welcome and appreciated!

WILL YOU HELP US RETURN TO WHAT FFCNC DOES BEST? MAKE FRIENDS!

IF SO, and have not already done so, please return this survey **BY FEBRUARY 10**, directly to Judy Greene at judygreene155@gmail.com , call me with your responses at 302-983-7531, or send by USPS to 112 Coravan Ct, W-S, NC 27106 with any questions and/or suggestions.

FFCNC APRIL 20-25, 2022 INBOUND HOSTS NEEDED

Name/s: _____

NOTE: COVID BOOSTERS ARE REQUIRED OF ALL Hosts and ALL Ambassadors. Masking & other safety protocols will be followed & activities are mostly outdoors.

Will you night-host ambassador/s from FFNCO FOR 5 nights: APRIL 20-25, 2020?

Yes _____ No _____ Any Stipulations? _____

Will you: DAY host? Yes _____ Be a driver? Yes _____

Host a small group dinner? Yes _____ Maximum # _____ Preferred day _____

I WANT a driver _____ or day-host _____ driver _____ day-host _____ (days TBA)

How many ambassadors can you accommodate?

One person _____, Two (couple-two in one bed) _____, Three _____, Four (ex: 2 rooms/2 couples)

Do you have indoor pets? Yes _____ NO _____ If yes: dog/s _____ cat/s _____

Will you help with: program planning _____, coordinate an activity _____?
coordinate day hosts _____, or drivers _____

Additional Stipulations? _____

Thank you for responding to judygreene155@gmail.com **BY FEBRUARY 10.**

More Good News about our Club Journeys. Charles John, our Club Journey Coordinator reports a friendly phone conversation with Judith Hornsby, of the Greater Cincinnati FF Club. Judith's Club is preparing for a visit from FFCNC from May 15 to May 21, 2022. We are hopeful for a great trip to nearby Cincinnati, Ohio in late spring.

The Journey has a Number 22638, now we need an Ambassador Coordinator for this Outbound Journey. Please contact Charles John at 336-383-6423 or by email at CharlesDJohn@Hotmail.com

A few of the places on a long list of venues await us, the list includes:

National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
Harriet Beecher Stowe House
Pres. William Howard Taft National Historic Site
Taft Museum of Fine Art
Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden
Cincinnati Reds Baseball Team

Go to the Cincinnati FF Club website for more information
www.friendshipforcecincinnati.org

Click on "MORE" in the upper right hand corner, then click on "Visiting Cincinnati" for some interesting photos of a great city!



The city of Cincinnati, Ohio as seen from the Ohio River.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR APRIL LEO!

Date: Thursday, April 21, 2022 Rain date: TBA 11am-2 pm

GARDEN TOUR (and picnic lunch) AT WALNUT HILL.
Home of Master Gardener, Pat Morgan and Don Ethington

On 30 acres of property in Ringgold, VA, Pat and Don have lovingly developed 20 gardens. We will be able to wander around, explore and visit with each other before and after lunch.

Drive time is approximately 1 hour from Greensboro and 1.5 hours from Winston-Salem.

Watch for your invitation and driving directions in early April.