

FFCNC April 1, 2023 Newsletter

Friendship Force Central of North Carolina is moving ahead. A full set of post pandemic activities is in the works. Inbound and Outbound Journeys are in progress.



Our friendliness Mascot, Jackson the Cat, sets an example with his friend Tyler and approves of our doings.

Outbound: India/Nepal - Currently ongoing March 22-April 6

Katmandu, Nepal # 23121 & India Pre-tour. Dates are March 22, Wednesday to April 6, Thursday 2023. Martha Brown Coordinator - They are on the way!!!



Getting Ready: India and Nepal Orientations (hosted by Laura Graham & Edward Benson) India and Nepal Orientations (hosted by Laura Graham & Edward Benson)



On February 12 the ambassadors were treated to a presentation about India by Sanjiv Sarin and his wife, Ratna. Sanjiv is an Industrial



Engineering professor at NCA&T University and Ratna is a retired special education teacher. They were born and lived in India until age 20 and have lived in the US for 40 years. They frequently travel to India and recently completed several trips due to missed trips because of COVID. (See if you can find familiar faces in the photos).

They discussed the geography, climate, religions, and social economic status of India. They shared good points on food, phones, and credit cards. We are looking forward to an exciting visit.

On March 12 the ambassadors enjoyed their second orientation with Situ Shrestha who works at Cone Hospital as Sr Financial Analyst after attending Salem College. She recently returned from 18 days in Nepal visiting her brother's new baby. She told us many times about how welcoming the Nepalese people are to visitors. She explained meals, customs, and health safeguards. With her enthusiasm we caught her joy which created more excitement for our trip to Nepal. So -- They are now on their way. We should learn of many interesting visits.

Flash!!!! --We have a real time update! On Friday, March 31, 2023 at 09:24:38 PM EDT, Charles John <charlesdjoh@gmail.com> wrote:

Our action-packed India pre-journey extension ended yesterday with a 3:00 morning departure from Jaipur, arriving midday in Kathmandu. The Golden Triangle: Delhi, Agra and Jaipur, was immersive, fun, educational and exhilarating. Friendships blossomed amongst group members and with the Indians from the Audley team that guided us expertly through all the various experiences and spectacular sights we encountered.

Marylin and I have just awakened from a very restful night at the home of our hosts. We're looking forward to getting to know them.
TTYL

Inbound: Open World – Kyrgyzstan -May 12-20

Open World program for May of 2023 with the Delegates coming from Kyrgyzstan and the subject is “Rule of Law”. Ralph Cauthen and Ray Kiszely are organizing presentations to explain our legal system.

Open World “Rule of Law” Program

May 12th to May 20th 2023

We have been working on developing a very interesting program for our Delegation from The Republic of Kyrgyz, a small Central Asian nation that was once part of the Soviet Union. We will be working with Wake Forest Law School and Forsyth County Court System for part of the week. The program will begin in Greensboro working with the Guilford County Court System as well as the Law Enforcement Departments and Elon Law School. The program will finish with a wrap up and evaluation of meetings at The Center for Creative Leadership.

We are planning to have a Welcome Picnic at Bur-Mill Park in Greensboro on Saturday, May 13th beginning at 1:30 p.m. An announcement with more details will be sent out soon.

Ralph Cauthen has been developing our list of club members that have volunteered to be a home host or day host/driver for our delegates. If you would like to help please contact Ralph at 336-707-5285.

Inbound Journey: New Mexico - June 13-20

NEW MEXICO CLUB VISITS FF Charlotte first then to our FFCNC

The official flag of New Mexico consists of a red sun symbol of the Zia people on a field of gold (yellow). It was officially adopted in 1925. The Zia sun symbol represent the four cardinal directions, the four seasons of the year, the four periods of each day (morning, noon, evening, and night), and the four seasons of life (childhood, youth, middle age, and old age).



Arizona will meet first with FF Charlotte, then FFCNC June 13-20 - 7 nights.

Volunteer's will be needed. Please contact Roger and Nan Poplin

nangpoplin@msn.com

Home Hosting

Welcoming (LEO) Club Party

Day Hosting

Farewell Party Club Dinner

Small Group Dinners Hosting

Transportation

Miscellaneous

Currently – 8 Ambassador Guests are anticipated. This will be their first journey since the beginning of the COVID era. Apparently FFCNC received a glowing recommendation from Northern Colorado (last Spring).

Outbound: Lethbridge/Rockies - August 14-26

2023 Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada # 23147. The Journey most likely will take place August 12 thru August 29, 2023. Judy Greene & Sandra Graml

FFCNC - We had a Great party: - LEO (Let's Eat Out) - St Pat's Day Party March 19, 2023

Irish Music, Lunch Food, Socializing was the theme.



Forty members or over half the Club carried on the tradition of having a great time.

I learned this time that St Patrick was the son of a prosperous Christian Roman family in England born in late 300s before the Romans left. He died on March 19 in 400s – hence our party with



music – and wearing the green.

He was captured by the Irish Pagan Druids and made a slave, then escaped to return to England. He loved the Irish, became a priest, and returned to convert them to Christianity. Science

says the ice age killed the snakes in Ireland, and worms in Michigan. – I guess Patrick mostly removed the snakes and demons from their thoughts. The Shamrock may have been a Druid religious symbol, used by Patrick to explain the trinity? Who knows?

Druids clearly needed some help. Modern 'art people' have the 'Burning Man' in the desert. In 1958 I witnessed, in Santa Fe NM, the burning of a 50 ft 'Old Man Gloom'. The Irish Druids had a huge 'Wicker Man', that they placed captured slaves into before burning to satisfy their Gods. St Patrick had work to do!

We need to follow Patrick's ways to again keep our snakes and demons away.

Container Gardenng at Reynolda Gardens - April 12, **2:00 to 3:00 pm:**

Lucy Kaplan (onecake@aol.com) needs response by April 5.
Only \$50.

Pot needing help vs Pots after getting help.



Membership Update:

Eleanor Stoller, Membership, reports that there are 59 members who have paid dues. Seven members are 'Legacy' since they have not yet paid dues. Travel is still option providing dues are paid up.

Continuing Reports on the Meetings with Delegates from Ukraine and Moldova:

Look forward to future updates of continuing activity.

Communications – Donald Woodward