

Friendship Force of Central Arizona
Nancy Unferth
2007 E. Northview Ave.
Phoenix, AZ 85020
FEBRUARY 2024

FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF CENTRAL ARIZONA

2023 OFFICERS

President Ruth Shaw (602) 920-8680
Co-Vice V.P. Larissa Marinelli (480) 272-2179
Co-Vice V.P. Mary Rubert
Secretary - Sandra Jordan (623) 9337563
Treasurer Ruth Shaw
Club Website: <http://ffcenaz.com/>

Committees

Membership, Position Open
Publicity, Bill Kram (602) 793-0478
Historian, Position Open
Newsletter, Nancy Unferth (602) 371-1165
Programs, Special Events, Pat Forsythe (623) 815-1017
Directory, Bill Kram (602) 793-0478

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS
Diane Mason 5
Nancy Unferth 18



MARK YOUR CALENDAR
February 4, 4 Details on Page 3.

December 31st Please send your dues. See page 4.

Is anyone interested in ride-sharing from the east side of the Valley? Call me, 602-920-8680. Ruth for Friendship Force Club



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Newsletter February 2024
Friendship Force
Newsletter February 2024
Ramblings from Ruth:

Dear Friends:
February 2024. Can you believe it? This is going to be a busy month for many of us. It seems that I had planned so many new things for January and here it is February with things still not finished. I do hope you are moving along in 2024 fulfilling your wishes and dreams.

We will have our 4 x 4 social gathering, on February 4, 2024. Information about the 4 x 4 is found elsewhere in this wonderful newsletter. I want to take a minute and thank Nancy Unferth for publishing our newsletter for so many years. Nancy is always willing to help everyone and to give me a nudge to write this little paragraph.

We no longer have Pete and Yoshi Frazier as members and also wearing the dual hats of our officer and committee chairperson. We will miss you and hope you find new horizons to explore with your family.

Dues are due, folks. \$30 a person for this year. Please send it to Ruth Noble, 4021 N. 45th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85018.

We have encouraged new members and guests, but it is time to join our Club. You can find good friends, fun things to do, and travel adventures with us.

An outbound journey to Orlando, Florida was proposed for late April or early May. Due to the lack of availability for our members, this will not be happening. If you are still interested, let me know.

Nancy Mueller has been working very hard on the Mexico journey, inbound for April 2024. Look for her update in the newsletter.

If you know of a place where we can have meetings, a meeting, hall, church that would be central to all members, please let us know. Rshaw38@cox.net.

Please give me your impressions and suggestions for our Club. In this month of love and friendship, I remain,
Your Friend, Ruth

OUR JANUARY ADVENTURE

HuHugam Ki Museum (House of the Ancestors) was the first stop for 18 of us on Thursday, January 18th. First, we learned interesting information about the tribes, the area, and the museum from our tour guide. The museum was completed and dedicated on November 11, 1987, in honor of all veterans of the Salt River (O'odham) Pima-(Pipaash) Maricopa Indian Community. This former Youth Home (1963) was completely remodeled inside and built with a ramada area outside. The building itself was made to look like the original traditional "sandwich" house - made with saguaro cactus ribs and packed mud. Though the museum is small, baskets, pottery,

photographs and other articles were nicely displayed.

In addition, Nicole Carlos of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community was demonstrating pottery making. She is one of three who has the skills to make pottery which includes the time-consuming process of pulverizing the clay, mica, etc.

Outside we saw a vato/mathkyaaly/ramada, a olas ki/va/ Round House and a cooking area. We were told the purpose of each and the various materials used.

To end our visit, we watched a tortilla making demonstration. We were each given a dough ball to stretch out which was then cooked by two very friendly community members and our tour guide. The freshly made and perfectly charred tortilla was a tasty treat. Note: There will be a Tortilla Festival at the museum on March 23rd. It's free and open to the general public. I was told that tortillas will be available for tasting and also for sale.

From the museum, we took a short drive to The Stand, an open-air roadside eatery. Sitting outdoors, we enjoyed eating fry bread or a taco. The last leg of the day's adventure was to USS Arizona Memorial Gardens,

Thank you, to Pat Forsythe for planning and making all of the arrangements. And, thank you to all of those who attended.





HAPPY FELIZ FELIZ
Incoming Journey
April 8th

All is a go for the Chiapas Club, Tucson Club and our club. April 1-15 are the chosen dates. 12 members from the Tuxtla Gutierrez FF club have said YES. They will spend their first week in Tucson and their second week in Greater Phoenix.

Some of the likely activities include a day at the Musical Instrument Museum, a day trip to Sedona, a singalong at Organ Pipe Pizza, a tour of the Hall of Flame, a cultural exchange with the Sun City Spanish Club, a welcome activity, a farewell gathering, perhaps a day trip to Wickenburg or a noon meal at the Polish Festival. Of course there will be free time for hiking, shopping, touring.

Target dates are final schedule and hosting match by February 20, all details finalized by March 22, anticipated arrival date April 8.

To make this inbound journey successful, we need

- == HOSTS who provide a bed and breakfast for 1 or 2 guests for the week, provide transportation to the events of the week, and who provide a few dinners during the week. There is a form to complete to help with matching the hosts and ambassadors.
- == DAY HOSTS who provide transportation for guests to events on 1-2 days to assist the full time hosts
- == DINNER HOSTS who host a dinner for 6-10 people
- == FRIENDSHIP FORCE MEMBERS who want to meet and travel with our guests.
- == PLANNERS who help detail the week, pick up tickets or food, make the journey smooth and enjoyable.



Ruth Shaw

Dear Friends:
 The Friendship Force 4x4 social event for February 4, 2024 will be:
 Sunday, February 4, 2024 at 4:00 pm. at the home of Sue LaVacque.
 Address: 9801 W. Gulf Hills Drive, Sun City, AZ
 Theme: Bring something sweet. it's sweetheart month.
 Bring a guest. Join our club.

Please contact me if you want to volunteer. It will be fun. You will make wonderful friends. Contact me with ideas, questions or concerns. 608-838-3575.

Nancy Mueller, Journey Coordinator

**WELCOMING IN THE NEW YEAR
WITH A JANUARY 4 X 4.
(new)**

Current, new, and prospective FFCAZ members and guests gathered January 4th at the home of Russ Fedoration. Nineteen attended this informal social gathering for us to get to know each other. In addition to socializing and introductions that followed, there were some business items that were presented.

Nancy Mueller covered several topics. Attendees were surveyed in regard to a possible Inbound journey from Chiapas, Mexico in conjunction with Tucson. It was agreed that April would work and several people expressed a willingness to host. Possible activities were tossed around.

In an effort to actively recruit new members, brochures were available and given to those who wished to have one. Also, the new generic club business cards, thanks to Bill Kram, were shown.

Though dues were to be paid by December 31, 2023, they will continue to be accepted. \$30 a person a year, \$60 a couple, and \$15 a year for an Association membership. Dues should be sent to Treasurer, Ruth Shaw. See top of page 2. *Increasing our dues was mentioned. Nancy reminded us that 100% of the dues we pay goes to FFI. And, an increase in our dues would allow our club to add money to our coffers. This will be discussed by the board in the future.

It was suggested that informal 4 X 4s be held on the east side of the valley since some have been unable to trek to those held on the west side. Pat Forsythe stated the upcoming field trips: Huhugam Ki Museum on January 18th and St. Anthony's Greek Orthodox Monastery DTBA.

It was especially wonderful to see members we may not have seen for some time. And, it was very nice to meet potential and new members. And, thank you Russ for your gracious hospitality.

All FFCA members, potential members, and guests are welcome. The next 4 X 4 will be Sunday, February 4th hosted by Sue Levaque.

Larissa Marinelli

**MINUTES FOR
CENTRAL ARIZONA FRIENDSHIP
FORCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2020
ZOOM MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: 10:00 AM for Board of Directors meeting via Zoom. Board members present; Nancy Unferth, Nancy Mueller, Mary Rubert, Larissa Marinelli, Bill Kram and Ruth Noble.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Email received from Pete Frazier, treasurer. January 9, 2024, balance is \$3,642.33. Outstanding deposit not received is \$120. Anticipated payment to Friendship Force International for our Clubs' FFI dues is \$720.00.

**TREASURER REPORT –
MEMBERSHIP:** Pete Frazier reported by email our club has eighteen paid members. Bill Kram will contact Pete Frazier for membership contact information. New member Christine Kastella..

TREASURER RESIGNATION – Board of Directors accepted Pete Fraizer’s resignation as Club Treasurer. The Board thanked Pete for the dedicated work he performed for our Club. Ruth Noble will be Interim Club Treasurer.

JOURNEY TREASURER’S REPORT:

No action.

PUBLICITY/DIRECTORY: Bill Kram has updated Club’s website. New Friendship Force business cards for members are now available. They may be picked up at one of the outings or a four-by-four meeting.

Bill Kram will compile a list of names for the membership with pertinent information. This list is to be used at this time for operational purposes. New membership booklet to be prepared at a future date.

NEWSLETTER: Nancy Unferth has requested articles and information be sent as soon as possible. ir Bios.

NEW BUSINESS:

MONTHLY MEETINGS: Discussion was held regarding a meeting place for a monthly meeting. Discussion followed regarding if necessary to have a general monthly meeting in addition to activities and social four-by-four meeting or if general meeting could follow an activity. Scotts Generation Deli was considered.

2024 INBOUND JOURNEY: journey Coordinator, Nancy Mueller reported the inbound journey with Mexico will be April 8-15, 2024. The ambassadors will travel to Tucson and Phoenix April 1-15-24.

Ambassadors will spend the first week in Tucson and Phoenix the second week.

Details will be published in the newsletter.

2024 OUTBOUND JOURNEYS:

Discussion was held regarding Kenya journey. Motion was made, second and passed to cancel outbound Kenya journey. Discussion was held regarding the recent invitation from Orlando, Florida club for an outbound journey. Motion was made, second and passed to accept outbound to Orland Florida. (I think that was canceled.)

2025 INBOUND JOURNEY: Discussion was held regarding inbound 2025 journey. Motion was made, second and passed to invite France as an inbound journey. Request to be forwarded to Friendship Force International.

2025 OUTBOUND JOURNEY:

Discussion was held regarding outbound 2025 journey. Bill Kram is to inquire with his contact in Canada and assess the possibility of our club journeying to Canada. The explanation was given that this is the same journey previously planned for our club before COVID. Further discussion was held. If a journey is agreeable with Canada, our request will be sent to Friendship Force International.

SLATE OF OFFICERS 2024: A motion was made, second and passed that the nomination committee for 2024 officers would be the Board members present at the January 10, 2024 board meeting, Nominations were President, Ruth Noble; First Vice-President, Larissa Marinelli; Second Vice-President, Mary Rubert; Secretary, Sandy Jordan; Interim Treasurer, Ruth Noble. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the slate of officers from the nominating committee by acclamation.

Committee Chairs Nancy Unferth, Newsletter and Bill Kram, Publicity will continue to serve in 2024.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES: Report was given on upcoming January and February 2024 activities and possible overnight trip. No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: 11.35 am.

Respectfully,
Ruth Shaw Noble,