

If you have not been receiving correspondence from FF International, see Judy Cagle's section for instruction.



Your President's Report By David Motherwell

This month we were saddened to hear that **Art Mannell** passed away. He was a longtime member of our club. For detail on Art's Celebration of Life on **March 11th**, [click here](#).

Forty-eight years ago, Friendship Force International was founded on **March 1, 1977**, by President Jimmy Carter and Wayne Smith, a Presbyterian minister, at a White House gathering of state governors with the mission of spreading goodwill. Our club does not have any special event planned for March 1, which is designated **World Friendship Day**. However, the important thing is to embrace the spirit of friendship by extending kindness, compassion, and understanding to others. Through coming together as a global community, Friendship Force members can continue to play their part in making the world a more connected and harmonious place, one friendship at a time. May we have another good year during this year of transition.

Thanks to Doris Yohe for organizing two LEOs this month. On February 20, eight members attended the orchid show at the Missouri Botanical Garden. This annual event provides a rare opportunity to view hundreds of blooming orchids from the Garden's permanent collection, which includes over 5,000 individual plants and nearly 700 unique species. On February 27, nine members attended the Art in Bloom exhibit at the St. Louis Art Museum. We saw dozens of works from the museum's collection imaginatively interpreted by the region's floral designers. We also discovered some beautiful stained-glass artwork on display in the gift shop by our long-time member, Carol Kuntzman.

On February 17, six members and one guest discussed the book, "The Day The World Came to Town" by Jim Defede. We were impressed by the display of friendship and goodwill that the Newfoundlanders offered to the stranded airplane passengers on 9/11.

Schedule for other future book discussions are as follows:

March 17 – "The Orchid Thief" by Susan Orlean. This nonfiction book by a journalist is based on her investigation of the arrest of horticulturist John Laroche and a group of Seminoles in Southwest Florida for poaching rare orchids. Elements of the book were used in the award-winning movie "Adaptation."

April – "Turning Right at Machu Picchu-Rediscovering the Lost City One Step at a Time" by Mark Adams. This bestselling travel memoir is about an unadventurous writer retracing Hiram Bingham's 1911 expedition to the lost city, blending history, adventure, and humor.

May – "The Fifties" by David Halberstam. This 731-page bestseller is a comprehensive history of post-war America, exploring the decade's cultural, political, and social transformations through profiles of key figures and trends.

From Doris Yohe, Social Committee VP

LEO: On **March 6th** at **11:00 am** we plan on a 45-minute tour of the **First Missouri State Capitol State Historic Site**, 200 South Main Street, St Charles. This building was the capital of Missouri from 1821 to 1826 while Jefferson City was being groomed as the permanent site for Missouri's capital. If you like Missouri history, you will enjoy this tour. Admission is \$4.00 for groups of 10 or more, and \$5 for smaller groups. People can pay with cash or a charge card on the day of the visit. There is a flight of steps to go to the second floor. The temperature in the building tends to be cool, so dress accordingly. We will have **lunch** at the **Lewis & Clark Restaurant**, 217 South Main Street, just across Main Street.

Please call or **text Doris Yohe, at 314-805-8932** if you are interested in attending this event.

LEO: On **March 27th** we will meet at **10:00 am** to visit **The National Museum of Transportation**, 2933 Barrett Station Road, Kirkwood, Mo. for their Roads, River, Rooms, and Reels exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of Route 66. We will have **lunch** at the **Saffron Indian Cuisine restaurant**, 2137 Barrett Station Road, St Louis, 63131, which is at the northwest corner of Manchester Road and Barrett Station Road.

Please call or text **Doris Yohe, at 314-805-8932** if you are interested in attending this event.

From Judy Young, Movie Group

For the **Movie Group**, the movie pick is "**Solo Mia**", a romantic comedy drama, on Wednesday, **March 11th, at 4:30 pm** at the home of Susy Alias. Solo Mia is a great movie with socially redeeming value. The film stars Kevin James as Matt, who, after being left heartbroken in Rome after a wedding disaster, embarks on his planned honeymoon across Italy alone. The movie explores themes of heartbreak, second chances and the transformative power of love and adventure. As always, after you have seen the movie, bring a dish to share another lively discussion. Please call/text Judy Young at her cell at 636-634-1458 if you plan to attend.

ANNUAL PICNIC : Mark your calendars. The Picnic will be held on Wednesday, July 8th at noon at Vlasik Park, Ballwin (same location as last year). More detail to follow soon.

From Judy Cagle, VP of Membership

Celebrating March Birthdays!

3/3	Jerry	Johnson
3/13 (In Memory)	Charlotte	Balettie
3/13	Barbara H	Robinson

If we have missed your March birthday, please let Judy know.

Membership Committee Formation

*We really need to grow our club, so I would like to create a Membership Committee to brainstorm ideas on how to promote the club and find new members. There may be other opportunities this summer to set up a table or have some events at the local library. Please let me know if you would be interested in joining the committee. Please call or text me, **Judy Cagle, at 314-304-5644***

Kirkwood Performing Arts Center (KPAC)

On Sunday, February 8th, the Kirkwood Performing Arts Center had an event called "Show Me 66" which was directed by the famous Andrew Wanko. Andrew narrated a bit and did a Q&A after the show.

Before the show started, The Club had the opportunity to set up a table and distribute Friendship Force literature to promote our organization. Special thanks to David Motherwell and Dory Lamont for volunteering to help with this event. It was a fun event, and we had several people that were interested that we talked with and provided literature.



Instructions of how to receive this and future messages from Friendship Force International (World Headquarters)

Now that you have established an ID and Password when you renewed online and become familiar with the My Friendship Force Platform (<https://my.friendshipforce.org>), you can explore the site.

To ensure that you receive all the correspondence, you will need to make sure that you have the correct Communication Preference on in your **profile**:

- GO to My.friendshipforce.org
- Logon with email and password
- Upper Right click on picture and choose **My Profile**
- Edit Communication Preference
- Verify that Newsletter is toggled On

If you have been receiving correspondence with the incorrect eastern time instead of the **correct central time**, you can also resolve the issue by going to your **profile**:

- GO to My.friendshipforce.org
- Logon with email and password
- Upper Right click on picture and choose My Profile
- Edit my Profile
- Go down to and Chose Time Zone
- Select (GMT-05:00) Central Daylight Time (America/Chicago)
- **UPDATE**

Access to the website gives club members important information regarding the Friendship Force including:

1. A safe and secure place to learn more about Friendship Force International;
2. A listing and information about other clubs;
3. All upcoming journeys;
4. Virtual programs and
5. A place to engage with the global Friendship Force network beyond your local club.

If you have issues with renewing or getting online, please call Judy Cagle at 314-304-5644 or Maria Carson at 314-401-4034