



The Friendship Force of Greater Seattle Newsletter #56 November 1, 2024

- FFGS Board Meeting**
Greenwood Library
Wed. Nov. 20th Noon
8016 Greenwood Ave N
- Christmas Luncheon**
Anthony's in Des Moines
Sunday, December 1, 2024
1 – 4 pm: Invite a friend!
- Hamilton Outbound**
February 20 – 26, 2024
Bob & Karen – coordinators
- Cuba Global Outbound**
April 13-19, 2024
9 FFGS members going
- Richmond, Virginia
outbound-Judi (May/June?)
- Manitoba, CA **outbound**-Pura
Mid-August, 2025
- Winnipeg **Inbound** - Elaine
Sept 30 – October 7, 2025
- Costa Rico **Inbound**-Joyce/Sue
Early Sept. 2025

President's Letter:

Happy **Dia de los Muertos** (today and tomorrow). I hope you didn't over dose yesterday on Halloween candy! We have lots of fun coming up. Our holiday luncheon is on December 1st. Start thinking about your white elephant gift. Mark has done a wonderful job getting this lunch set up again. We appreciate all his efforts.

Our 2026 hosting form is due to Atlanta by December 6. We will take a quick poll at the lunch to just confirm our hosting availability for 2026.

2025 is going to be a busy year. The schedules for our inbound and outbound journeys should be nailed down shortly. We will have many opportunities for everyone to help out and will send out updates as soon as we have them.

Our November board meeting is at the Greenwood library on 80th and Greenwood at 12:00 (noon) November 20th. **Everyone** is welcome to attend.

Thanks to Joyce for this wonderful newsletter! We really appreciate all her work and creativity.

- - - Judi, FFGS President

I haven't been everywhere, but it's on my list. - - - Susan Sontag
Work, travel, save, repeat. - - - Unknown
When preparing to travel, lay out all your clothes and all your money. Then take half the clothes and twice the money. - - - Susan Heller

Confluence Park, Issaquah, WA: Our FFGS Summer Picnic! Tuesday, September 3, 2024



What a fun time at the potluck picnic in Issaquah! We had great food (you have to love these potlucks) and good company! We all enjoyed oohing & cuddling Mark & Denise's new grandson!

pot-luck / ˌpät ˈlək/

There are multiple proposed origin stories for the word "potluck." The first comes from Indigenous Americans and the word "potlatch." Indigenous peoples, particularly in the Pacific Northwest and some parts of Canada, would host large gatherings called potlatches, where communities would gather to give away and share ...

Cincinnati Outbound, September 16 – 23, 2024

“Cincinnati is in Hamilton County, which was a great center for prehistoric Indian cultures. The area is rich in mounds, earthworks, and extensive ancient burial grounds. Important Indian trade routes and trails traversed the Cincinnati area. Cincinnati, as early as 1826, became known as the “Queen City of the West”. This title was popularized by the poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his poem “Catawba Wine” Cincinnati was also known as “Porkopolis” because of the pork packing industry during the 19th century.

The development of Cincinnati was greatly influenced by German immigrants. In 1888 one-third of the city’s population was of German ancestry and brewing beer had become an important business. One of Cincinnati’s festivals held annually is “Oktoberfest” which celebrates our German heritage. Greater Cincinnati includes parts of the states of Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana, with a population of over 2,000,000 people. The city of Cincinnati has a population of a little over 300,000 and is located on the banks of the Ohio River, the border between Ohio and Kentucky.”

Cincinnati Schedule of Activities

Monday: Arrival from Seattle

Tuesday: Cincinnati Art Museum Tour and lunch at the Art Museum Café, Findlay Market, Ride the Connector to see street murals, St Peter In Chains Basilica, and Welcome Dinner

Wednesday: Serpent Mound, lunch at Crafts Unlimited, Produce Auction, JR’s General Store, Country C Bakery, Highland Nature Center

Thursday: National Underground Railroad Museum, Lunch at Hofbräuhaus, Cincinnati Museum

Friday: Cardboard Boat Museum, US Grant’s Birthplace, Lunch - Dairy Yum Yum II, John Parker House, Rev. Rankin House

Saturday: Free Day with hosts

Sunday: Loveland Castle, Fort Ancient, Farewell Lunch at Golden Lamb Inn

Famous Cincinnati food!!



Skyline Cincinnati Chili



Glier's Goetta Sausage (pork, beef, oats)



Hofbräuhaus during Cincinnati Oktoberfest

WAYS	
3-WAY	
Our signature dish—steaming spaghetti, covered with our secret-recipe chili and topped with a mound of shredded cheddar cheese.	
Small	400 Cal - \$6.59
Regular	800 Cal - \$8.89
Large	1130 Cal - \$11.29
4-WAY	
A 3-Way with diced onions or beans.	
Small	410-440 Cal - \$6.89
Regular	820-890 Cal - \$9.19
Large	1150-1250 Cal - \$11.59
5-WAY	
A 3-Way with diced onions and beans.	
Small	450 Cal - \$6.99
Regular	900 Cal - \$9.39
Large	1270 Cal - \$11.89

Chili – 3, 4, 5 ways



Grater's Ice Cream (since 1870).



Black raspberry chocolate chunk.



Findlay Market

Pictures from our many Cincinnati adventures!



Cincinnati Art Museum Tour



Findlay Market

Cincinnati Murals

St. Peter's Basilica



Yoder's Furniture

Amish/Mennonite Area

Produce Auction



Ohio River

Marian Spencer Sculpture

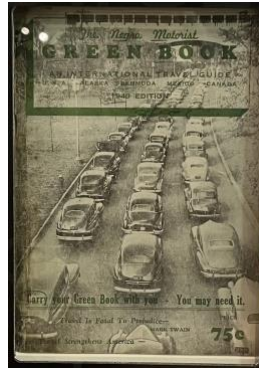
Hofbräuhaus

Mark becoming a Reds Fan

Cincinnati has such a sense of history ...



Cincinnati Museum



Greenbook



Small Group Dinner



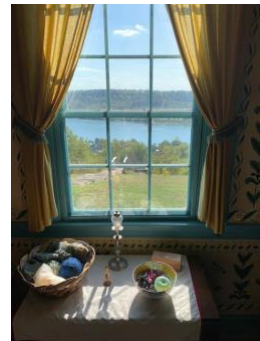
Cardboard Boat Museum



US Grant's Birthplace



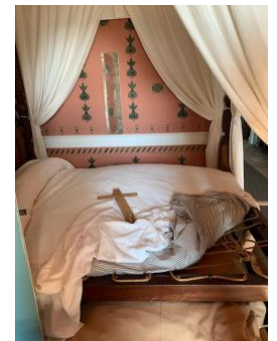
Joe helping cleanup



Candle view to river



Rev. Rankin house



Sleep tight (rope supports)



Conservatory



JD Vance's house



Oktoberfest Bier



Oktoberfest tent w/band

Our free day gave us opportunities to explore even more great sites and experiences.



Oktoberfest along Ohio River



Dave at a Reds game



John E Parker house



Loveland Castle



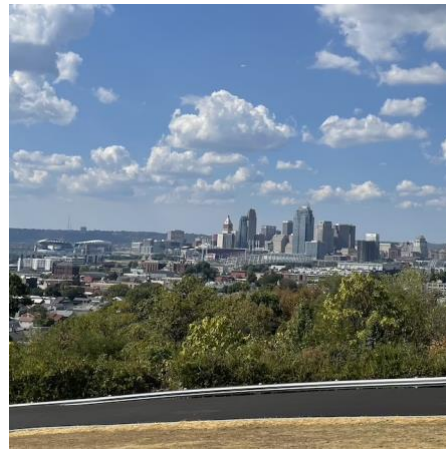
Inside Loveland Castle



Farewell lunch Golden Lamb Inn



St. Mary's Basilica, Covington, Kentucky



Cincinnati view from Kentucky



Cincinnati Botanical Garden



Loveland Castle



Sir Joe (tile)



World's Largest Train Display



Flying Pig Sculpture

A Statement from Friendship Force International

*“Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter has played an integral role in the founding and history of **Friendship Force International**. On October 1st, he reached a remarkable milestone—his 100th birthday! We at Friendship Force extend our warmest birthday wishes to President Carter and offer our heartfelt gratitude for his years of influence and support. Join us with your own birthday message, by clicking on President Carter’s image, below.”*



Celebrating 100 years!

*A tribute from **The Carter Center***

“Founded by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and the late First Lady Rosalynn Carter in 1982, The Carter Center empowers people in need with the tools to advance peace and better health. As we celebrate President Carter’s 100th birthday on Oct. 1, we invite you to join our amazing community of caring friends and supporters by sending him a birthday wish.

Upload your photo and message [here](#) and help us create a mosaic of images that reflect President Carter’s incredible life and legacy — and celebrate his 100 years! Thank you for being part of the greater Carter Center family as we Wage Peace, Fight Disease, and Build Hope!”

Click on [this link](#) to enjoy tributes from all living former Presidents.

Touring Tanzania: Carol and Mark presenting



Carol and Mark said that this truly was a trip of a lifetime. It was great for them to share their stories, pictures, and impressions with all of us.

Travel Photos!



Grandkids went to Acapulco and all we got was the picture.



Day of the Dead

Day of the Dead combines the ancient Aztec custom of celebrating ancestors with All Souls' Day, a holiday that Spanish invaders brought to Mexico starting in the early 1500s. The holiday, which is celebrated mostly in Mexico on **November 1 and 2**, is like a family reunion – except dead ancestors are the guests of honor.



*A mollydooker is a slang term for a left-handed person. In use since the 1930s, mollydooker probably came from British dialect brought to **Australia** in the early twentieth century. Denise & Doug found their cafe ...*



Queretaro

Cruise terminals join electric makeover of Seattle waterfront



The Seattle Times: The Norwegian Bliss

“The behemoth cruise ships that roll toward Seattle’s skyline belching diesel exhaust each summer can now plug in to power and turn off their engines anywhere they dock. As the last cruise ships of the season departed Seattle’s shores this month, the Port of Seattle celebrated the completion of its major electricity upgrades at the Bell Street Cruise Terminal at Pier 66. Seattle is now one of the only ports globally that is able to simultaneously power three cruise ships with low-carbon electricity, Port of Seattle Commissioner Fred Felleman said.

Did You Know? - - - Costa Rica

- Is located between Nicaragua and Panama in Central America. It's about the size of New Jersey with a population of five million, two million of whom live in the San José metropolitan area.
- Tourism is a major source of revenue. The country was a pioneer of ecotourism, it ranks as one of the world's Top Ten ethical destinations.
- Costa Rica is known for its rich flora and fauna with some of the greatest biodiversity in Latin America.
- Following a brief civil war in 1948 Costa Rica permanently abolished its army, one of the few countries in the world without one.
- With uninterrupted democratic governments dating to at least 1948 Costa Rica is the region's most stable country.



Pura vida is the most famous saying in Costa Rican culture and, although its literal translation is ‘pure life’, it’s essentially the embodiment of many aspects of the local way of life. What does pura vida mean? A life lived simply, genuinely and with gusto: this is the core of this very iconic and enticing philosophy.



Friendship Force Pledge

As a member of the Friendship Force
 I recognize that I can make a difference
 I recognize that I have a mission
 mission is to be a friend of the people of the world.
 As I embark on this adventure,
 I know that others will be watching me
 I know that through my example to my fellow citizens
 And the people of other nations
 The cause of friendship, love, and peace will be furthered
 I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

“There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments.”

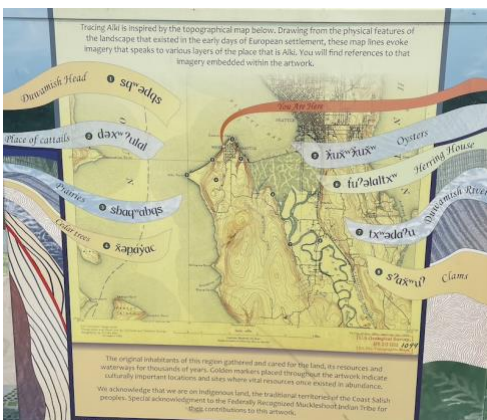
***Janet
 Kilburn
 Phillips***

Local Places worth exploring: *West Seattle*

Mark is seen here interviewing the owner of this West Seattle landmark along the Alki waterfront.



Chief Sealth (1786 – 1866) of the Duwamish and Suquamish Tribes, was a great statesman and peacemaker who mediated between the tribes and the incoming settlers. Some say he was born at Blake Island or White River. Others say he was born in a Duwamish village near Alki Point named Me-Kwa-Mooks, which means, “place shaped like a bears head.” Chief Sealth lived on this beach when the first Euro-Americans landed and his many descendants live all around this area today. A speech of his about the environment is so powerful that it has been quoted for over a century around the world. (Alki Beach plaque)



“Tracing Alki” is inspired by the topographical map (left). Drawing from the physical features of the landscape that existed in the early days of European settlement, these map lines evoke imagery that speaks to various layers of the place that is Alki.”

Travel [trah-val] noun: The only thing you can buy that makes you richer

Travel Tips & more (Better Report – [7 Surprising Uses for Silica Packets](#))

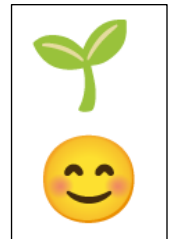
- What to do with those silica packets that come with purchased items?**
- Preserving Photos and Documents (to protect against damage from moisture)**
- Extending Razor Blade Life (store razer in a bag with silica packet)**
- Preventing Foggy Car Windows (store silica packets on your dashboard)**
- Reviving Wet Electronics (place wet electronics in a bag with silica packets)**
- Preventing Silver Tarnish (store packets with silver to slow tarnishing)**
- Protecting Leather Goods (store silica packets in leather shoes!)**
- Preventing Musty Odors in Luggage (silica packets absorbs moisture preventing mold/mildew)**

Time to plant garlic: (Pura’s way ...)

Soak the cloves for 10 minutes in: vodka, hydrogen peroxide or rubbing alcohol.

Then soak them over night in a mixture of fish fertilizer and seaweed extract (you can use only one of those if needed).

Plant.



[WA-grown mint is flavoring a big bite of the world's gum and toothpaste](#)

Washington is the No.1 producer of spearmint oil in the US and No.3 producer of peppermint oil. WA is also the No.1 producer of apples, sweet cherries, hops, pears and blueberries! Enjoy the Seattle Times article about these crops.

The Seattle Times

[Cosmic Crisp boasts big sales for Washington, with new apple varieties on the way](#)

“Known for its crunch and sweet taste, the Cosmic Crisp apple has been awarded “Best Snack” by Good Housekeeping for the third time. The apples never brown when you cut them. Sales of Cosmic Crisp producing trees are exclusive to Washington. The Cosmic Crisp is the intellectual property of Washington State University, and has its own patent.”

The Seattle Times

Hamilton, New Zealand: February 20 – March 10, 2025

FFGS Members are looking forward to visiting our Hamilton Friendship Force friends from February 20 through 26, 2025. Twenty members will be participating in the journey, 13 from our club, 6 from the Columbia/Cascade club, plus one member from the Missoula, Montana club. The Hamilton host coordinator is Jude Rees; Jude was hosted by Keith and Eleanor when the Hamilton club visited us in Seattle during July of 2023. Following the Friendship Force Hamilton journey, 14 of the 20 ambassadors will continue on a private tour from February 27 through March 10, returning home from Auckland on March 11. The tour of the North and South Islands includes visits to Christchurch, Queenstown, Doubtful Sound, Wellington, and Rotorua. Travel between locations includes two domestic flights, a train and ferry, plus a guided bus tour of the South Island. The scenery and activities will be spectacular as we visit a fjord, wineries, the Weta film studios, a Maori culture center, geothermal sites, and more. Bob and Karen are the journey coordinators; the journey is now at capacity.



Christchurch, NZ



Doubtful Sound, NZ

Inbound Journeys:

Alajuela, Costa Rica to Victoria/Vancouver Island, CA and Greater Seattle, USA :

Coordinators: Joyce and Sue; dates TBD (possibly early to mid-September)

Winnipeg, Canada to Greater Seattle and Columbia Cascade, USA

Coordinator: Elaine; dates Sept. 30 – Oct. 7, 2025 (she would love a co-coordinator!)

Outbound Journeys:

Greater Seattle to **Hamilton New Zealand – February 20 – 26** **Coordinators: Bob and Karen**

Greater Seattle, USA to **Richmond, Virginia USA – Coordinator: Judi; dates TBD**

Greater Seattle, USA to **Manitoba, Canada –Coordinator: Pura; dates mid-August**

Nine FFGS members are also signed up for a Cuba Global Journey mid – April

FFGS Annual Christmas Luncheon – Anthony’s Home Port in Des Moines!

Celebrate with us on Sunday, December 1, 2024 at 1 pm at Des Moines Anthony's Restaurant! This event is open to all members, associate members, and friends! This is a great opportunity to invite someone you know who may be interested in joining FFGS. Traditional white elephant gift exchanged is back by popular demand - black tie optional...

Here are your menu options and pricing. Note that tip and taxes are included (whew!)

Choose between:

Black Cod: \$40

Chicken: \$40

Pasta primavera (vegetarian): \$30

Steak: \$45

All choices include a dinner beverage and dessert. Alcoholic beverages are available at the bar.

With 30 people we should be able to keep the clubs portion to around \$250. Of course, we can have more than that number as well.

If anyone wants a ride, let Mark know! We can arrange for that!

This is a great opportunity to bring a friend that may be interested in joining.

[Day of the Dead Facts](#) (click to read the details!)

It's not quite Mexico's version of Halloween

A special kind of sweet bread (pan de muerto) is made for the deceased

November 1st is Día de los Angelitos (day of the little Angels),

November 2nd is for the souls of deceased adults

Marigolds are used to attract the deceased

Hairless dogs & Monarch butterflies are important Day of the Dead critters



[Seattle's Historic Cemeteries; Lake View Cemetery 1872](#)

“Among notables buried at Lake View are four generations of the Denny family. Arthur Armstrong Denny and his wife, Mary Boren Denny are attributed with being the first white family to arrive at Alki point and make claim to being the founders of the city of Seattle. Princess Angeline, the eldest daughter of Chief Seattle, was originally given the name Kikisoblu. But when she converted to Christianity, she was given a new name because she was “too handsome a woman to carry a name like that”. When the Duwamish people were forced from their land, Angeline refused to move and retained her home on the banks of Elliot Bay near today’s Pike Place Market. Henry Yesler, believed himself to be the most important settler that came to the city in early days. Yesler established the first sawmill, the first industry to be built in Seattle and gradually expanded his entrepreneurship by helping grow Seattle in a variety of different ways. The Yesler memorial sits next to that of Princess Angeline as they had become close friends. Other early settlers in Seattle also buried at Lake View include the first governor of Washington State, Elisha Perry, the first mayor of Seattle Henry Atkins, Dexter Horton Seattle’s first banker, David Maynard, Seattle’s first doctor, Thomas Mercer a businessman for whom Mercer Island and Mercer Street are named, and Robert Moran the mayor of Seattle during the Great Fire and who was responsible for rebuilding many businesses. Actors Bruce Lee and his son Brandon Lee lay next to each other at Lake View. Their gravesites are the most visited at Lake View, with about 10,000 visitors a year. Bruce Lee moved to Seattle when he started high school, went to the UW for college and was married here.”

[Massive fire closes Ohio River bridge near Cincinnati and damages steel structure](#)

“A massive fire underneath a bridge spanning the Ohio River closed a heavily traveled route between Cincinnati and northern Kentucky on Friday (today!) and damaged part of the steel structure. No injuries were reported. The fire broke out overnight near a playground under the bridge, shutting down Interstate 471, according to the Cincinnati Fire Department. Video showed flames soaring more than 40 feet into the air and igniting a short section of the bridge, known for its yellow arches, near downtown Cincinnati. Chunks of concrete fell from the bridge and the fire warped a few of its steel beams, fire crews reported. The heaviest damage was on the bridge’s southbound lanes leading to Kentucky and will take weeks to repair, said Matt Bruning, a spokesperson with the Ohio Department of Transportation.