



Mountain Friends

Volume 24, Issue 3

March 2024

FFWNC Club Website: www.ffwesternnc.org

FFWNC Mailing Address: FFWNC, P.O. Box 384, Hendersonville, NC 28793

FFI Website: <https://friendshipforce.org/>

President's Message

"Here are life's riches next to you--here, in the faces of your friends, in the laughter of their children, in the tenderness of those you loved, and worked, and lived with. This is community. Our end and our beginning. The best of everything we are..."

--from the TV series ***Call The Midwife***

As FF members, we are fortunate to have our local, national, and international community from which we are able to draw riches. Those of you who are long-term members can draw from a large memory bank of laughter, challenges, and shared journeys. No doubt you have used those experiences to become a better self--to more effectively reach out to family, friends, and even those who we have to strive to include in our own personal communities. I, along with the Club, welcome each new member as part of our community, as together we continue to strive to be the best of everything as hosts, ambassadors, and FF participants.

*In friendship,
Harriett*

Next General Meeting – March 17th – 5- 7 pm - St. Paddy's Day!

Please note the location: First Congregational Church, 1735 Fifth Ave. West in Hendersonville. Connecting to our fall 2024 outbound journey to Romania, Guest Speaker Lane Martin will share his experiences and knowledge of this Eastern European country. As usual, this is a pot luck meeting, so please bring a dish to share, along with your own cutlery, plates and drinking glass.

February 15th Happy Hour at Appalachian Ridge Artisan Cidery

We enjoyed a beautiful spring-like day at the Cidery. The Cidery is a lovely example of building renovation which sits on a beautiful apple orchard. A good time was enjoyed by all.



Membership Recruitment at Middleton Place Clubhouse (Open to new 2023 and 2024 FFWNC members)

2001 Middleton Place, Hendersonville

Friday, March 8th - 3:30 – 5:00 pm

The Membership Committee will be hosting a Wine & Cheese Gathering for members of the Henderson County Welcome Club and members of the Hendo Meetup Group. This invitation is extended but limited to new FFWNC members, due to space considerations in Middleton Place Clubhouse.

The event will be an excellent opportunity for new members to learn all the “Ins and Outs” of Friendship Force, but were afraid to ask.

This will be a casual gathering to share travel experiences with newcomers and friends. Complimentary wine, cheese and crackers will be available, along with non-alcoholic beverages. Please join us.

Please RSVP by March 5th with the following information, if you plan to attend:

Your name

Your email

Your phone number

Reply to Ellen Brazauskas or Susan Gaston.

Upcoming Events March

- Friday, March 8th – 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm - Wine and Cheese Gathering at Middleton Place Clubhouse for Henderson County Welcome Club members, Hendo Meetup Group and new 2023 and 2024 FFWNC members.
- Tuesday, March 12th – 10:00 am – Board Meeting at Interfaith Assistance Ministry (IAM)
- Sunday, March 17th – 5 – 7 pm - General Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner at the First Congregational Church, 1735 Fifth Avenue West, Hendersonville. Remember plates, cutlery and cups/glasses and bring a dish to share.
March Program: Romanian Connections and Insights by Lane Martin
- Thursday, March 21st – 4:30 – 6:00 pm – Happy Hour at Trailside Brewing Company, 873 Lennox Park Drive, Hendersonville, NC 28739 Beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages are available.

April

- April 2nd – 8th - *Inbound Journey from Western Michigan*
To help with home hosting, hosting a small dinner for ambassadors, or day hosting, please contact Susan Harvey.
- Tuesday, April 9th – 10 am - Board Meeting at the Henderson County Extension Office
- Thursday, April 18th – 4:30 – 6 pm - Happy Hour Location TBD

- Friday, April 26th – Book Club, hosted by Ellen Brazauskas. We will discuss *Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America* by Heather Cox Richardson.

New readers are welcome! We meet quarterly, on the last Friday of the month in January, April, July and October. For more details, please contact Gerri Gurbuz.

Call for Day, Dinner and Home Hosts for 2024 Inbound Journeys

Home hosts, dinner hosts, and day hosts are still needed to bring these ambassadors into our community with warmth and ease. Please contact Susan Harvey for the April Western Michigan journey inbound needs. For Manitoba, please consider home hosting an ambassador or providing a meal to as few as two or three of the ambassadors and their home hosts on May 9th or 12th. Contact Harriett Hilton for this journey.

2024 Journey Calendar

April 2 - 8 - Western Michigan inbound
Journey Coordinators: Susan Harvey and Betty Doll

May 8 - 14 - Manitoba Canada inbound
Journey Coordinators: Harriett Hilton and Nancy Wood

September 7-13 - Sibiu, Romania outbound
(Pre and post extensions to be scheduled)
Journey Coordinators: Susan Harvey and Chuck Stevens

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

March Birthdays

1 - Carol Mullen
 11 -Becky Reid
 19 -Chuck Elston

March Anniversaries

March 2 – Peter and Sharon Cooper
 March 27 – Becky and Chuck Elston

April Birthdays

2 - Susan Gaston
 7 - Gerri Gurbuz
 9 - Bryan Byrd
 20 - Kay Manley, Jack Mullen

FFWNC 2024 General Meetings & Board Meetings Schedule

MEETING DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
Sunday, Jan. 21	General Meeting	3:00 pm	Middleton Place Clubhouse
Sunday, Mar. 17	General Meeting	5:00 pm	First Congregational Church, 1735 Fifth Ave. West, H'ville
Sunday, May 19	General Meeting	5:00 pm	Park Avenue Clubhouse, 15 Clubhouse Ct., Asheville
Saturday, July 13	Annual Picnic	12:00 Noon	Mills River Park Pavilion
Sunday, Sept. 15	General Meeting	5:00 pm	To be determined
Sunday, Nov. 17	General Meeting & Election of 2025 Officers	3:00 pm	To be determined
Sunday, Dec. 15	Holiday Party Mtg.	3:00 pm	To be determined
Wed., January 17	Board Meeting	10:00 am	Interfaith Assistance Ministry (IAM)
Tuesday, Feb. 20	Board Meeting	10:00 am	Henderson Cty. Extension Office
Tuesday, Mar 12	Board Meeting	10:00 am	IAM
Tuesday, Apr. 9	Board Meeting	10:00 am	Henderson Cty. Extension Office
Monday, May 20	Board Meeting	10:00 am	IAM
Tuesday, June 11	Board Meeting	10:00 am	Henderson Cty. Extension Office
Tuesday, July 9	Board Meeting	10:00 am	IAM
Tuesday, Aug. 13	Board Meeting	10:00 am	Henderson Cty. Extension Office
Tuesday, Sept. 10	Board Meeting	10:00 am	IAM
Tuesday, Oct. 8	Board Meeting	10:00 am	Henderson Cty. Extension Office
Tuesday, Nov. 12	Board Meeting	10:00 am	IAM
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Board Holiday Party	TBD	TBD

General Meetings are usually held on the third Sunday of alternate months. Meeting locations vary and will be announced on website posts and in the monthly newsletters.

Board Meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of the month, with some exceptions, as noted above.

FULL 2024 Calendar Year for FFWNC (Subject to change, as year progresses)

FFWNC 2024 Events Calendar	
<p style="text-align: center;">January</p> <p>1/17 (Weds) - Board Meeting – 10am - IAM 1/18 (Thur) - Happy Hour – 4:30pm – Booda’s Brewing, Hendersonville 1/21 (Sun) - General Meeting – 3-5pm – Middleton Place Clubhouse 1/26 (Fri) – Book Club – 1:30pm – Larry Harvey’s home</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">February</p> <p>2/15 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm–Happy Hour Appalachian Ridge Artisan Cidery, 731 Chestnut Gap Road, Hendersonville, NC 28792 2/20 (3rd Tues) – Board Meeting – 10am – Cty Ext. Office</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">March</p> <p>3/8 (Fri) – Membership Recruitment- 3:30 – 5 pm Middleton Place Clubhouse (Welcome Club, Hendo Meet-up, new 2023-24 FFWNC members) 3/12 (Tues) - Board Meeting – 10am – IAM 3/17 (Sun) - General Meeting – 5-7pm – First Congregational Church Hendersonville 3/21 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm - Trailside Brewing Company, 873 Lennox Park Drive, Hendersonville, NC</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">April</p> <p>4/2-4/8 (Tues – Mon) INBOUND JOURNEY – W. MICHIGAN 4/9 (Tues) – Board Meeting – 10am – Cty Ext Office 4/18 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm – TBD 4/26 (Fri) – Book Club – 1:30pm - <i>Host –Ellen Brazauskas</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">May</p> <p>5/8-5/14 (Wed – Tues) - INBOUND JOURNEY – MANITOBA 5/16 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm TBD 5/19 (Sun) – General Meeting – 5-7pm – Park Ave Club House Asheville, NC 5/20 (3rd Mon) – Board Meeting – 10am - IAM</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June</p> <p>6/11 (Tues) – Board Meeting – 10am – Cty Ext Office 6/20 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm - TBD</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">July</p> <p>7/09 (Tues) - Board Meeting – 10am - IAM 7/13 (Sat) – Annual Picnic – Noon – Mills River Park 7/18 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm - TBD 7/26 (Fri) – Book Club – 1:30pm - TBD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">August</p> <p>8/13 (Tues) - Board Meeting – 10am – Cty Ext Office 8/15 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm - TBD</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">September</p> <p>9/7-9/13 (Sat – Fri) - OUTBOUND JOURNEY - ROMANIA 9/10 (Tues) – Board Meeting – 10am - IAM 9/15 (Sun) - General Meeting – 5-7pm - TBD 9/19 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm - TBD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">October</p> <p>10/7-9 (Mon-Wed) – FFI Regional Conference – Milwaukee 10/8 (Tues) - Board Meeting – 10am – TBD 10/17 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm - TBD 10/25 (Fri) – Book Club – 1:30pm – TBD</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">November</p> <p>11/12 (Tues) – Board Meeting – 10am - IAM 11/17 (Sun) – General Meeting Election of 2025 Officers - TBD 11/21 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 1:30pm - TBD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">December</p> <p>12/15 (Sun) – Club Holiday Party – 3-5pm - TBD 12/17 (Tues) – Board Holiday Party - TBD</p>



friendship force
WESTERN
NORTH CAROLINA

Membership Application / Renewal

Send to: Treasurer, FFWNC, P.O. Box 384, Hendersonville, NC 28793
(Separate Application per person)

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

- New Membership w/badge \$57 **per person** \$ _____
- Renewal Membership \$45 **per person** \$ _____
- Associate (if you are a member of another FFI club and pay that club's full dues) \$15 **per person** \$ _____

Name: _____ Date of Application _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Year joined FFWNC _____ Birthday _____ Anniversary _____

How did you hear about Friendship Force of Western North Carolina? _____

Friendship Force is a volunteer organization. Our success depends upon member participation.

AREAS YOU ARE WILLING TO SERVE:

- ____ Board of Directors or Officer
- ____ Committee Chair (i.e., Hospitality, Membership, Publicity, Newsletter)
- ____ Journey Coordinator
- ____ Hosting – home, dinner, day *

*Please visit the FFWNC website at: <https://ffwesternnc.org/being-a-friendship-force-host/>
to learn about home, dinner and day hosting opportunities.

(Rev. 01/17/24)