



# Mountain Friends

Volume 24, Issue 7

July 2024

FFWNC Club Website: [www.ffwesternnc.org](http://www.ffwesternnc.org)

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

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

## President's Message

A Chinese proverb says, *"Those who drink the water must remember those who dug the well."*

*"Gratitude is one of the most attractive of all personal attributes."*

— John C. Maxwell

Featured in John C. Maxwell Quotes

I did not hear this first from John Maxwell, but from my dear Chinese friend, Ming Cheng. We met in Beaufort, SC where we both lived for years and became fast friends. She and her family were perhaps my original *private friendship force*. Through them, I had an opportunity to do recruiting for a Chinese college seeking English teachers and made two trips to China.

More importantly, I learned that sometimes your cherished and faithful friends can come from a culture and lifestyle very different than yours. IN FFWNC, we have opportunities to drink from various wells of viewpoints, backgrounds, and perspectives, both from within our club and within the larger framework of FFI. Cherish the drink and remember that we all help dig a common well for our Friendship Force activities and peace, both locally and internationally.

*Harriett Hilton, 2024 FFWNC President*

## Next General Meeting and Annual Picnic – Saturday, July 13th – Noon Mills River Park

Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at Noon at the Mills River Park Pavilion. Mark your calendar for a combination of good food and friendship. The club will provide the fried and baked chicken as well as drinks, while members bring a side dish to complete the meal, along with your own plates, cups and cutlery.

A brief business program will include announcements of the 2025 inbound and outbound journeys, as well as voting for a club member to serve on the 2025 Nominating Committee. This is a time to hear from fellow members, provide your input on current activities, and socialize with club members.

### “Pass the Spoon” Lunches – 11:30 am

FFWNC lunches have resumed. They occur on the opposite months of General Meetings (i.e., August, October, December, etc.)

June’s event will be held at Chai Pani in Asheville on June 26<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in attending the June luncheon, please contact Ellen Brazauskas no later than noon on June 25<sup>th</sup>. The August date is to be determined soon.

### June 20th - Happy Hour at Burning Blush Brewery – 4:30 pm

June’s Happy Hour took place at Burning Blush Brewery in Mills River. It was a great day to celebrate the Summer Solstice and was a good turnout.



## July 18<sup>th</sup> Happy Hour –Stone Ashe Vineyard

Happy Hour – 4:30 pm – Stone Ashe Vineyard,  
736 Green Mountain Road, Hendersonville, NC 28792  
<https://stoneashevineyards.com>

### Upcoming Journeys

#### September 7 - 13 - Sibiu, Romania outbound

*(Pre and post extensions scheduled)*

*Journey Coordinators: Susan Harvey and Chuck Stevens*

Thirteen FF ambassadors will travel to Romania to learn and appreciate Romanian culture and form new friendships with the Sibiu, Romania Club.

#### Western Michigan Club – Outbound Journey – Fall, 2025

##### Dates to be determined

A sign-up sheet for this journey will be available at the July 13<sup>th</sup> General Meeting and Picnic. Please consider participating in this outbound journey. The Western Michigan Club visited us in April. They were a very enjoyable group.

#### Dallas Fort Worth – Inbound Journey

##### Proposed Dates – May 14 - 21, 2025

Signup sheets will be available at the July 13<sup>th</sup> picnic. Our club will need home, day, and dinner hosts as well as a journey coordinator or co-coordinators.

A journey coordinator or co-coordinators are needed for both the Western Michigan outbound and the Dallas Fort Worth inbound journeys.

### Become a FFWNC Journey Coordinator

Our club is recruiting members to become journey coordinators (JCs) for 2025 journeys. JCs are needed for both the inbound and outbound journeys. In October, 2024, Jan Partin and Susan Harvey will lead training for new JCs.

As noted earlier in this newsletter, our 2025 journeys will be Western Michigan outbound (Grand Rapids area) and Dallas Fort Worth inbound. In the past, two inbound or outbound JCs have occasionally been selected for journey coordination, which lightens the load for coordinators and provides the

opportunity to share input and duties. The major duties for in and outbound JCs are listed below.

#### Outbound JC duties

- Works with the inbound JC on journey dates and planning.
- Recruits club members to participate in the journey through newsletter efforts, email blasts and announcements at General Meetings.
- Accepts applications from potential ambassadors and passes the information on to the inbound coordinator for home host matching.
- Works with our Club Treasurer to ensure that fees to FFI (Friendship Force International) and journey expenses to the inbound club are forwarded in a timely manner.
- Presents a short, informal summary of the journey to the Club membership at a General Meeting soon after the journey ends.

#### Inbound JC duties

- Recruits club members to participate in the journey through newsletter efforts, email blasts and announcements at General Meetings to be home, dinner or day hosts.
- Plans the program for a visiting club's journey to our club which includes daily activities.
- Prepares a budget for the journey, which is approved by the Board. The budget details are forwarded to the inbound JC.
- Works with our Club Treasurer to arrange payment details for all outbound ambassadors' expenses.
- Ensures that arrival and departure details are in place, with home hosts assuming responsibility for airport pickups, if needed.
- Matches inbound ambassadors to our Club's home hosts.
- Advises the Board after the journey ends as to the final journey expenses and reports the journey highlights and challenges.
- Presents a short informal summary of the journey to the Club membership at a General Meeting soon after the journey ends.

*As an incentive, JC(s) may accept a stipend of \$500 for international outbound journeys and \$250 for all other journeys. If there are co-JC(s), the stipend shall be shared equally. The stipend is incorporated into the budget created by the JC(s).*

## Upcoming Events

### July

- July 13<sup>th</sup> (Sat) – General Meeting & Picnic – 12:00 Noon – Mills River Park  
Bring a side dish to share, along with your own plates, cups and cutlery.
- July 18<sup>th</sup> (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30 pm – Stone Ashe Vineyard, 736 Green Mountain Road, Hendersonville, NC 28792
- July 26<sup>th</sup> (Fri) – Book Club – 1:30 pm – The Buzz, located at 225 S. Grove Street, Hendersonville. The book to be discussed is: *A Pilgrimage to Eternity: From Canterbury to Rome in Search of Faith* by Timothy Egan. To participate, contact Gerri Gurbuz.

*\*New Book Club members are always welcome.* Our book club meets quarterly, on the last Friday of the month in January, April, July and October.

### August

- Tuesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> - 10:00 am –Board Meeting – County Extension Office
- Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> – 4:30 pm – Happy Hour – Location TBD
- “Pass the Spoon” Lunch – The date, time and location TBD

## July & August Birthdays

### July Birthdays

July 2 – Peter Cooper  
July 4 – Larry Harvey  
July 23 – Marlene Beggs, Susan Harvey  
July 28 – Larry McGaughy, Chuck Tokarski

### August Birthdays

August 7 – Betty Doll  
August 25 –Bill Hogan

## Newsletter Deadline

If you have Club news for the newsletter, please submit your information to Harriett Hilton no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## FFWNC 2024 General Meetings & Board Meetings Schedule

MEETING DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
Saturday, July 13	Annual Picnic	12:00 Noon	Mills River Park Pavilion
<b>Sunday, Sept. 29</b>	<b>General Meeting</b>	<b>5:00 pm</b>	<b>First United Methodist Church, Hendersonville, NC --Date change because many members will be traveling to Hungary on a post-trip addition to the Sibiu journey.--</b>
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
Tuesday, Aug. 13	Board Meeting	10:00 am	Henderson Cty. Extension Office
Tuesday, Sept. 24	Board Meeting	10:00 am	IAM
Tuesday, Oct. 15	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.*

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

<b>FFWNC 2024 Events Calendar</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>July</b></p> <p>7/13 (Sat) – <b>Annual Picnic</b> – Noon – Mills River Park Pavilion</p> <p>7/18 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm – Stone Ashe Vineyard, Hendersonville</p> <p>7/26 (Fri) – Book Club – 1:30pm – The Buzz, 225 S Grove St., Hendersonville</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>August</b></p> <p>Pass the Spoon Lunch –11:30 am – Date and location TBD</p> <p>8/13 (Tues) - Board Meeting – 10am – Cty Ext Office</p> <p>8/15 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm - TBD</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>September</b></p> <p><b>9/7-9/13 (Sat – Fri) - OUTBOUND JOURNEY - ROMANIA</b></p> <p>9/19 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm – TBD</p> <p><b>9/24 (Tues)</b> – Board Meeting – 10am – IAM</p> <p><b>9/29 (Sun) - General Meeting – 5-7pm – First United Methodist Church, Hendersonville</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>October</b></p> <p>Pass the Spoon Lunch – 11:30 am - Date and location TBD</p> <p>10/7-9 (Mon-Wed) – FFI Regional Conference – Milwaukee</p> <p><b>10/15 (Tues)</b> - Board Meeting – 10am – Cty. Ext. Office</p> <p>10/17 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 4:30pm - TBD</p> <p>10/25 (Fri) – Book Club – 1:30pm – TBD</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>November</b></p> <p>11/12 (Tues) – Board Meeting – 10am - IAM</p> <p>11/17 (Sun) – <b>General Meeting</b> -- Election of 2025 Officers - TBD</p> <p>11/21 (Thurs) – Happy Hour – 1:30pm - TBD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>December</b></p> <p>Pass the Spoon Lunch –11:30 am - Date and location TBD</p> <p>12/15 (Sun) – <b>Club Holiday Party</b> – 3-5pm - TBD</p> <p>12/17 (Tues) – Board Holiday Party - TBD</p>



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WESTERN  
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## 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 – Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_

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. 05/19/24)