



friendship force
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

April & May 2024 Newsletter

April Monthly Meeting & Program on Visiting Morocco
Friday, April 12, 10:00 AM
North Fort Myers Library Conference Room
2001 N Tamiami Tr, North Ft Myers



Join us for a fast-paced monthly meeting along with a fascinating talk by intrepid FF travelers, Marci and Michelle. They will tell us all about their recent fabulous journey to Morocco. After the meeting, we will go out to a local restaurant, probably for Vietnamese food. See you there soon!



Welcome New Member

Leigha Murray, a transplant from Connecticut, now resides in



Southwest Florida. Forever interested in the arts, culture, and architecture, acquired a loved position as Art Director and Curator for Arts and Humanities Council. Now enjoying new friends and experiences with Friendship Force, and travel. I just may run off and live in one of my favorite places on earth... The south of France!

Club Outbound Journeys to Twin Cities & Colorado June 20-25 to Minnesota June 26-30 to Northern Colorado



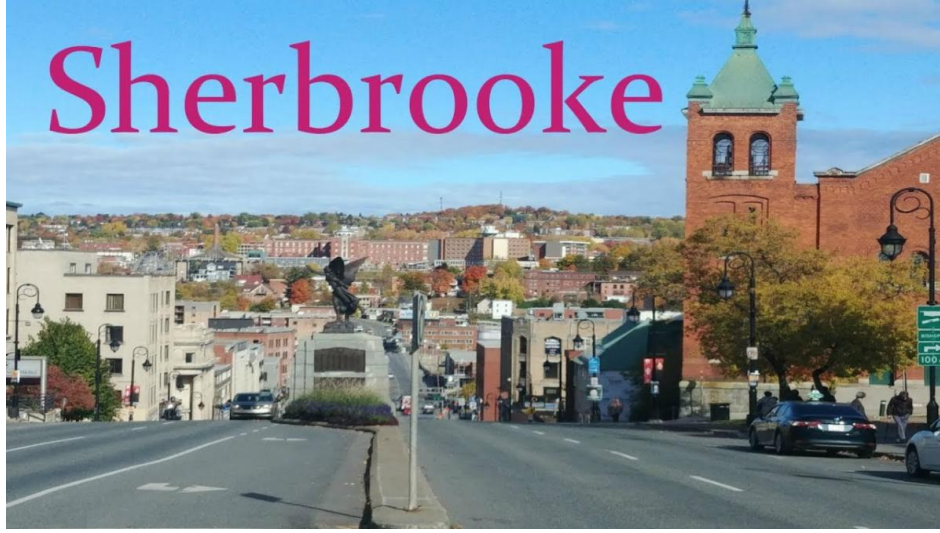
Journey Coordinator, Terese Libby, says both the Twin Cities, Minnesota and Northern Colorado journeys are full at 15 each!

Two couples from Sarasota FF Club are joining us for both. It'll be great to get to know them!

Minnesota Twin Cities has challenges getting hosts. Gary & Debbie Kuhns want to join the journey anyway and are paying for a hotel or AirBnB out of pocket.

All the paperwork applications and photos were sent to Northern Colorado. All airplane reservations have been made by ambassadors and shuttles are booked. Whew! Now, all we need to do is look forward to a great time at these two FF club destinations.

Sherbrooke



Update on Sherbrooke, Canada Outbound Journey

9 of our club members and 3 FF members of other clubs will travel to visit FF Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada, filling this journey.

Sept 3-8 Pre trip to Quebec City including a night at the Wendake indigenous program.

Sept 8-14 FF Sherbrooke, Quebec, Canada
Sept 14-18 Montreal

Marci says, "At this time we are full with 12 members signed up. We will have a waiting list in the event someone needs to cancel."

We have some exciting plans for the Pre Quebec City and Post Old Montreal. It will be a full two week trip plus travel days.

The weather should be perfect and the Sherbrooke is excited we have filled the 12 openings. They are working on their Itinerary for us."

We are looking forward to a very interesting journey!

**Announcing
FFSWFL Book Club
meeting at Marci's home
631 Andros Ct, Punta Gorda**

Our goal is to read books

about other countries and
cultures

April 10 @ 10 AM

The Girl With the Louding Voice

by Abi Daré



Let's Go Bike Riding
Saturday, April 13 at 9 AM

Webb Lake Boat Launch
Tuckers Grade (no number)
Punta Gorda, FL 33982

Rt I-75, exit 158, east 2 miles

Webb Lake is a wonderful safe place to ride, with 10 miles of paved level roadway with no traffic except for a few campers and bird watchers. There is a restroom at the trailhead. It is free for all retirees and there is no need to stop at the "ticket booth." There is plenty of parking and you park on the grass after ticket booth.

Contact [MICHELLE KEMPS](#) by Email or Text if you are planning to come. Guaranteed to get you going & in shape for Colorado!

Just for Fun - Let's Play Games
Saturday, May 18, 1 to 4 pm
21460 Strada Nuova Circle

Estero, Florida

Luvvy invites you to play the game of your choice with fellow club members in her terrific Activity Room in Estero. This is also a Pot Luck so bring whatever you have to share. Please let her know if you are coming by May 15 by phoning or texting her at 239-789-0879. Remember you can car pool to this fun event!



The banner features a background image of a city skyline with a construction crane. In the top left corner, there is a logo for 'Milwaukee NAC 2024' with a sun icon. The main text reads 'FFI North American Conference' in large white letters, followed by 'Drury Plaza Hotel Milwaukee Downtown' and 'Oct 7 - 10, 2024'. A white 'REGISTER' button is centered below the text. At the bottom, there are four circular counters: '223 DAYS', '12 HOURS', '25 MINUTES', and '35 SECONDS'.

Welcome to the 2024 North American Friendship Force Conference!

Your conference will be hosted in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where inspiration meets connection. Dive into discussions with members from Canada, Mexico, and the US. Gain insights from FFI leaders and innovators.

Beyond the conference sessions, check out lively Milwaukee, known for its hospitality, famous breweries, and rich cultural heritage. Local half-day excursions are available for you to enjoy, and the FF Milwaukee club members will give you recommendations on city dining for all budgets.

Don't miss this chance to meet with your peers and ignite new ideas that will shape FFI's future. Secure your spot by signing onto the **FFI portal** today!

Mark your Calendar!

Save the Dates!



April 12 - Monthly meeting with Traveling to Morocco featuring Marci and Michelle at North Fort Myers Library 10 AM with Vietnamese food lunch

April 13 - Bike riding with Michelle at Webb Lake at 9 AM

May 18 - Play Games with Luvvy and the gang in Estero, 1 pm, Pot Luck

June 20 - 30 - Outbound Club Journey to Twin Cities, MN and Northern Colorado FF Clubs

Aug 9 - Ice Cream Social at Linda Supakoff's home

September 8 - 14 - Outbound International Club Journey to Sherbrooke, Canada FF Club

October 7 - 10 - Regional Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

October 25th or Oct 26 - October Fest at Sandra's Restaurant

Dec 8 - Holiday Brunch in Fort Myers with Lou & Cheryle and the club

Missed meeting? Need to Keep Up with our Club?

If you've missed a meeting and want to know what happened, check out club MINUTES found on our FF Website under Membership Tab. Click [minutes](#). Go to minutes and read all about it. So easy!

CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD

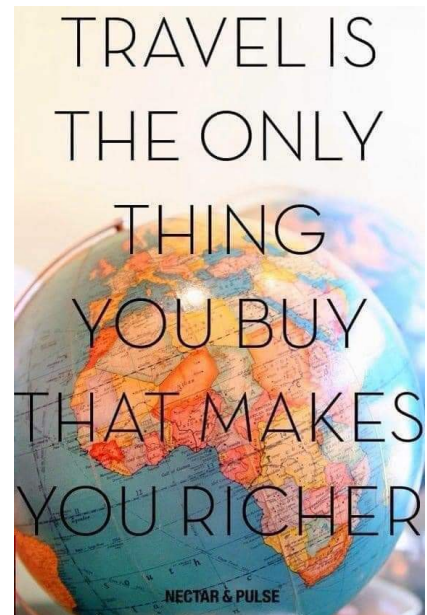
My FFI

The members-only portal, my.friendshipforce.org, is the go-to place for news, journey opportunities, payments, virtual experiences and all other member-relevant information. If you have not yet signed up, please do so. Confused how to do it? Email [Marci](#) (click on her name).

More Travel Opportunities

Click the link below to review a catalog of Special Journeys that are currently being offered by other FFI clubs. Perhaps there is a journey that interests you!

[2023-24 Journey Catalog](#)
[2023-24 Club to Club Journeys](#)



President's Comments

Greetings friends,

April is our favorite month to travel, so off to Europe for a month. But, here is the latest news from the Southwest Florida board.

We met last week, and decided to take a leap to increase membership. We will be offering free membership to new members starting now, for the rest of the year. We hope that they will of course renew next year, thus boosting membership.

That is one of our main goals. The Meet Up online notice has been canceled due to the lack of success there.

And I will have served two years as president as of next January, so would be happy to pass the job on to someone else. So looking for someone to step up. The other members of the board will stay on, just need a new leader. If necessary, I will stay on, but putting it out there.

Summer looks like a busy travel time for members, with three journeys up coming, and



some of us going to Morocco in October. We hope gatherings will happen in May and August, see the calendar.

Keep traveling!!

*Peace,
Carol*

Parting Shots from World FF Day





Friendship Force of Southwest Florida

Email Us



*Check us out &
contribute to Group
Facebook Page! Click
FaceBook icon above!*

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