

# February 2025

For the latest information on Friendship Force of Fort Worth go to <http://www.fffw.org>



# friendship force

## FORT WORTH

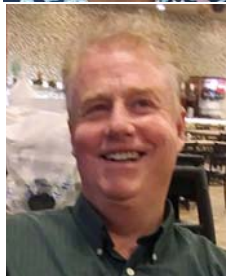
A Non-Profit Organization Promoting Peace Through Homestay Journeys  
Changing the way you see the world  
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Volume 39-Issue 1 – February-March

## March Quarterly Meeting 2:00pm Saturday, March 1, 2025 Vivian J. Lincoln Library 8829 McCart Avenue Fort Worth, Texas

Here we are, already two months into the new year. Also new is our meeting location at Fort Worth's brand new Vivian J. Lincoln Library. Coincidentally our host and presenter is librarian Mary Villari who will speak about the library and give us a tour of the facilities.



The Vivian J. Lincoln branch library opened in July of 2023. With an outpouring of support from the community, the name for the library was selected in 2022 to honor a career educator and beloved community member, Vivian J. Lincoln.

Looks like fun. Please plan to attend and don't forget to **Wear your name tag!**



**Directions to the Lincoln Library: From Fort Worth on McCart to one half block past Risinger Road on the east side of the street.**

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**THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER - FEBRUARY 2025**

Hello all,

Sadly, I have to report that our visitors from Baku, Azerbaijan have had to cancel. They hope that they will be able to reschedule with us sometime.

On a brighter note, we do have two domestic exchanges this year:

Our inbound from Shelby, North Carolina happening next month, and our exciting double outbound Western North Carolina, which includes the option a fun reciprocal visit offered by the Shelby club, in May.

If you are interested in helping out with any of the days on our inbound visit or just meeting and getting to know our visitors from North Carolina, I strongly encourage you to reach out to Sharon or Berry and we can put you in touch with the right folks. The agenda for each day should be published soon.

We have eight folks going to Asheville and then to Shelby North Carolina in May. There may be room for a couple of more folks if you are interested. Sounds like a great trip.

As always, we are very focused on expanding our membership this year, so please invite friends to join us for our monthly luncheons and quarterly programs, as well as day trips.

All are welcome here to participate in any way they choose.

Kind regards,

Tanya



March 1 is World Friendship Day. Sharon Jackson has a terrific idea. "Why not bring some sort of cultural snack/dessert to the March meeting. I can bring a cake for the occasion with Happy World friendship day on it. Come up with your own from your travels. here are just some I remember from mine or from cultures integration venues."

Baklava-Turkey or Mediterranean  
 Sopapillas-Mexico  
 Stroopwafels-The Netherlans  
 Cannoli-Italy  
 Flan-Latin America

Pavlova-Australia  
 Meat pies-Australia  
 Stickie Pudding-Great Britain  
 Brownies-US 😊  
 Poutine-Canada

So if someone from Hospitality calls or you get an eblast plan to get involved and have some fun.

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## DECEMBER QUARTERLY MEETING

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Our Holiday Dinner and quarterly meeting was held at Ridglea Christian Church. It was a potluck dinner with turkey and ham provided by the club. Entertainment was provided by pianist and member Gwen Genius accompanying her daughter, soprano **Melanie MacFarlane**.

Guests included **Dr. Marie Schein** accompanied by member James Godfrey; Gwen's friend **Philippi Arrighi** and **Carol Darwin** was Kathy McClaren's guest.

The board is considering a presentation from Dr. Schein later this year. She is a TCU professor with fascinating course work.



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## ANNOUNCING OUR NEXT DAY TRIP

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### FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF FT. WORTH DAY TRIP TO GRAPEVINE

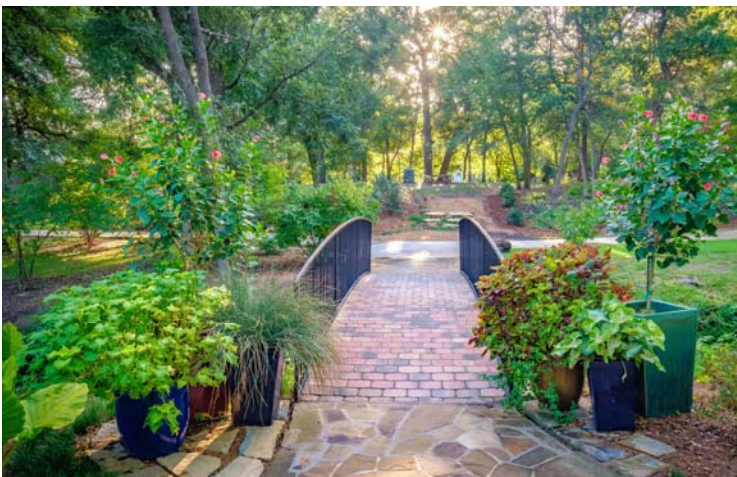
DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2025

**Optional:** For those who would like to ride the Bear Creek Short Line Excursion. (ticket: \$12.) Meet at the Grapevine vintage railroad station at 705 South Main Street, Grapevine, 76051 at 10:00 am. The train boards at 10:20 am and leaves at 10:40 am. It returns to the Grapevine depot at 11:40 am. Excursion dates fill quickly. If you want to include the train ride on our day trip make your reservation online at [gvrr.com](http://gvrr.com) or call the visitor center 817-410-3189 to reserve your seat for March 8<sup>th</sup>.



We will all meet for lunch at Harvest Hall (815 South Main Street next to the depot), a European-style hall with multiple restaurants and live music. The hall features local chef-driven, global, scratch-made cuisine. Afterward, a ride in the Hall clock tower gives an expansive view of the countryside for miles around (\$3.00)

A half-mile from downtown Grapevine (626 Ball Street) We will visit the Herman Nash farm, and experience late 19<sup>th</sup> century farm life. Thomas Jefferson Nash purchased 110 acres of farmland in 1859 and built a log cabin for his family—later replaced by a home of gothic revival architecture. (free)



Lastly, the Grapevine Botanic Garden, two blocks away, at 411 Ball Street is an award-winning garden in which to stroll and enjoy the spring plantings. (free)

If you plan to join us please call **Jeri Edmunds** (682-559-9335) by March 1, 2025.

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# DOMESTIC JOURNEYS UPDATE 2025

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## Our Domestic Journey Assignments for 2025

### Shelby North Carolina Inbound

The Friendship Force of Fort Worth will host the Shelby North Carolina club April 3rd thru the 8th. Seven ambassadors are coming and we look forward to providing them with some warm Texas hospitality.

Sharon Jackson is the journey coordinator. She plans for a Welcome Dinner Sunday the third at La Madeleine's on South Hulen. Events for the week include a TRE trip to Dallas, a visit to the Stockyards, a museum day, a visit to Opal's Farm and the Botanic Gardens. The Farwell Dinner will be at Silver Creek BBQ in Lake Worth.

Remember that all club members are invited to attend the events and get involved. Which reminds me. Sharon needs volunteers for day hosting, transportation and other tasks. Call her and offer your services.

### Western North Carolina outbound

The outbound is scheduled for May 13-19, 2025 with an extension to Hendersonville, North Carolina May 19 -22 (This is the club we will be hosting April 3-8). We currently has 9 Ambassadors. We can accept last minute Applications until March 1st. Please check with Linda Doyle. The itinerary includes sites that have been recovered or unharmed.

Our itineraries include

- Biltmore House and Gardens
- The Cradle of Forestry / Waterfalls
- Pisgah Astronomical Research Center
- Blue Ridge Parkway / Looking Glass Falls

Extension to Shelby

- International Equestrian Center
- Kings Mountain Battleground (Turning point of Revolutionary War)
- Cleveland County Sites: Earl Scruggs Center (World renown banjoist)

Cost: \$625 includes FFI Fees. Round Trip Air about \$600



## ETHNIC LUNCHEONS

Our January Ethnic Luncheon was held at Terra Mediterranean Grill, 2932 Crockett Street. Service is buffet only and the menu is varied. A board meeting was held afterward.

The newsletter editor was unable to attend so there are no pictures.



Our February Ethnic Luncheon was held at Carpenter's Café and Catering on Saturday February 15th. They serve soups, sandwiches and wraps as well as pastries and drop dead banana pudding. Guests included Judy Williams' sister

Roberta Gershkowitz and Irene Kjornes' sister and frequent visitor Mary Cadahia. A board meeting was held afterward.

Judy Williams is responsible for arranging our luncheons, so a big thank you for her fine efforts. If you wish to attend our Ethnic Luncheons please RSVP, if possible, by Wednesday prior to the date with Judy email [judithwilliams04@yahoo.com](mailto:judithwilliams04@yahoo.com) or text **817-680-9316** to assist in determining a reservation count.



Our next Ethnic Luncheon will be at Zoli's Pizza Saturday April 19th at noon, 3501 Hulen Street, Fort Worth Texas. Zoli's serves authentic New York pizza and Italian food. They also serve alcohol. Please make your reservation and plan to attend. Also, as always, don't forget to **Wear your name tag!**



**Plan Ahead**

Further details are emailed each month, or can be found on the web page: [www.fffw.org](http://www.fffw.org)  
Ethnic Luncheons are a great way to become better acquainted with members, and to introduce prospective members to The Friendship Force of Fort Worth

**FRIENDSHIP FORCE - CALENDAR**

March 1, 2025	Quarterly Meeting 6:00 pm La Madeleine on Hulen Street
April 3-8, 2025	Shelby North Carolina Domestic Inbound
April 19, 2025	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Zoli's Pizza, 3501 Hulen
May 13-19, 2015	Western North Carolina Domestic Outbound
May 17, 2025	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
June 6, 2025	Quarterly Meeting 6:00 pm La Madeleine on Hulen
July 19, 2025	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
August 16, 2025	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
September 6, 2025	Quarterly Meeting 6:00 pm La Madeleine on Hulen Street
October 2025	Baku, Azerbaijan International inbound CANCELED
October 18, 2025	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
November 15, 2025	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
December 5, 2025	Quarterly Meeting and Holiday Dinner TBD
January 17, 2026	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
February 21, 2026	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
March 7, 2026	Quarterly Meeting 6:00 pm La Madeleine on Hulen Street

- ◇ *Ethnic Luncheons occur monthly, on the third Saturday, followed by a board meeting, except during quarterly meeting months. Meeting time is 11:30 am, unless otherwise noted.*
- ◇ *Please RSVP if possible by Wednesday prior to the lunch with Judy Williams text 817-680-9316 or email [judithwilliams04@yahoo.com](mailto:judithwilliams04@yahoo.com), in order to assist in determining a reservation count.*

**!!!! IMPORTANT !!!!**

The FFFW Exchange Policies and Procedures are posted on the website:  
[http://fffw.org/newsletters/FFFW Exchange Policies and Procedures.pdf](http://fffw.org/newsletters/FFFW_Exchange_Policies_and_Procedures.pdf)



The Friendship Force is a non-profit organization whose goal is to establish an environment where seeds of personal friendship are sown across the barriers which divide the peoples of the world. As an ambassador you share lifestyles in a private home in other countries for a week, then you may home host to share your lifestyles. The Friendship Force was started in 1977 by Wayne Smith with the support of Jimmy and Rosalyn Carter. The organization has now become one of the largest exchange programs in the world.

**The Friendship Force of Fort Worth**  
**P.O. Box 16181**  
**Fort Worth, TX 76162-0181**

**THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF FORT WORTH (FFFW)**  
*New Member Application Form — Calendar Year 2024*

Names(s) on passport Please print or type.		Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	"Known as"
	Member 1				
	Member 2				
Address:	Street, Rural Route or PO Box #		City	State	Postal Code
Phones:	Home		Work	Cell	
Member 1					
Member 2					
Email Address:	Member 1				
	Member 2				

Welcome to Friendship Force! Without *you* there could be no Friendship Force! Please fill in the information requested so we may better know you & give you an opportunity to participate in areas of your interest. Check as many area as you wish. See page 2 for more info

Mem.1	Mem.2		Mem.1	Mem.2		Mem.1	Mem.2	
		Home Host			Officer			Speakers Bureau/Publicity
		Day Host			Journey Activities			Computer Skills
		Journey Coordinator			Journey Workshops			Art Skills/Posters
		Transportation			Photography			Newsletter/Brochure Prod.
		Translating			Telephoning			Hospitality/Activities
		Party Planner			International Garden			Setup/Cleanup for Activities
Other: Add additional interests or explanations:						Language Skills:		
How did you hear about us?								

**Member year is January-December**

Dues paid from 1/1 through 10/31 are for the current year. Members joining after 10/31 may pay for the following full year. Badges are required for many club functions and should be ordered below.

Regular Membership: \$50.00	Assoc. Memb: \$20.00 — Primary Club: _____	\$
	Additional tax-deductible donation to Friendship Force International	\$
Badge(s): \$15.00 each	Name on first:	\$
	Name on second:	\$
Optional <i>International Friendship Garden</i> donation (tax deductible)		\$
Signature	Check #:	Date: Amount Enclosed: \$

Send applications, with payment to:  
 The Friendship Force of Fort Worth, PO Box 16181, Fort Worth, TX 76162-0181  
 Make checks payable to *The Friendship Force of Fort Worth*



# Instructions for Completing the Membership Application

Name: Use your name as it appears on your passport. If you have a nickname that you prefer to be used in friendly conversation, add it under "Known As".

Address: Since nearly all FFFW communications is done via email, we prefer that you list your physical address here, rather than a different mailing address. Please use your nine-digit ZIP code.

Interests and Skills: You will obtain the most benefit from your membership if you help the club by sharing your skills and interests. Check your interests in the column associated with your name at the top. Feel free to ask any Board member if you don't understand a description or would like more information.

Home Host— The heart of Friendship Force. You are willing to have one or two ambassadors spend up to a week in your home. This typically includes a bedroom, breakfast, and one or two evening meals, and lots of interesting conversation. Normally guests will treat you to a meal at sometime during their stay.

Day Host— Give a home host a break during the week by taking one or more ambassadors under your wing for a day. Take them to events, share lunch with them, and bring them home in the evening.

Journey Coordinator— Organize and lead a Friendship Force Ambassador Journey to another country or another place in the United States. Or, help organize a week of hosting for incoming Ambassadors.

Transportation— Provide transportation for members who can't or prefer not to drive, especially at night. This might also include providing transportation for hosts and guests during a home stay.

Translating— Help translate for non-English speaking ambassadors, this might include written information as well as conversation. Note your languages and level of expertise in the Language Skills box.

Party Planner— Help plan parties, typically for internal club events, but you might also be asked to assist in some Journey or outreach activities.

Officer— President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer.

Journey Activities— Help plan hosting journey activities for our visitors. It might also include helping to plan activities to generate interest in an outgoing Ambassador Journey.

Journey Workshops — Help give workshops on being a Coordinator, an Ambassador, a Host, or possibly about a country that we plan to visit.

Photography— Take pictures during our journeys and other events, and publish to social media, newsletter, brochures, etc.

International Garden -- Assist in maintaining the clubs International Garden in Bluebonnet Circle - watering weeding, planting, etc.

Speakers Bureau/Publicity— Help get the word out about what an interesting and worthwhile organization we have.

Computer Skills— Assist in maintaining the website and member database, help members with problems getting email, prepare eblasts, etc.

Art skills, Posters— Help create graphics for our brochures, posters, newsletter, website, etc.

Newsletter— Help collect information, prepare, produce, review and/or edit our quarterly newsletter.

Hospitality— Help provide refreshments etc. for quarterly meetings. Perform other activities to make members, ambassadors and guests feel welcome to our meetings and events.

Setup/cleanup— Assist in preparations and restoration before and after club meetings and events.

The club has an International Friendship Garden in Bluebonnet Circle Park, on University Drive. Donations to help maintain the garden are fully tax deductible. FFFW is a 501(c)3.

**THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF FORT WORTH**  
**Membership Renewal Form — Calendar Year 2024**

Names(s) on passport Please print or type.		Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	"Known as"	No Info Chg.
	Member 1					
	Member 2					

Address:	Street, Rural Route or PO Box #	City	State	Postal Code	

Phones:	Home	Work	Cell
Member 1			
Member 2			

Email Address:	Member 1	
	Member 2	

**Club Participation & Interest Update (Check the appropriate boxes.)**  
**Please complete even if you have provided the information in prior years and checked No Info Chg.**

Mem.1	Mem.2		Mem.1	Mem.2		Mem.1	Mem.2	
		Home Host			Officer			Speakers Bureau/Publicity
		Day Host			Journey Activities			Computer Skills
		Journey Coordinator			Journey Workshops			Art Skills/Posters
		Transportation			Photography			Newsletter/Brochure Prod.
		Translating			Telephoning			Hospitality/Activities
		Party Planner			International Garden			Setup/Cleanup for Activities

Other: Add additional interests or explanations:		Language Skills:	
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**Member year is January-December**  
Renewal dues are payable by the **first week of December** of the prior year. Replacement or additional badges may be ordered below.

Regular Membership: \$50.00	Assoc. Memb: \$20.00 — Primary Club: _____	\$
	Additional tax-deductible donation to FFI	\$
Badge(s): \$15.00 each	Name on first:	\$
	Name on second:	\$
Optional <i>International Friendship Garden</i> donation (tax deductible)		\$

Signature	Check #:	Date:	Amount Enclosed:	\$
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**Address:** Since nearly all FFFW communications is done via email, we prefer that you list your physical address here, rather than a different mailing address. Please use your nine-digit ZIP code.

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