

August 2025

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



friendship force

FORT WORTH

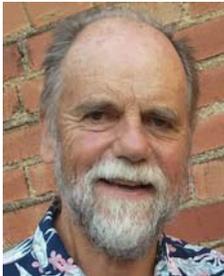
A Non-Profit Organization Promoting Peace Through Homestay Journeys
Changing the way you see the world
Published in February, May, August & November



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Volume 39-Issue 3 – August-September

September Quarterly Meeting

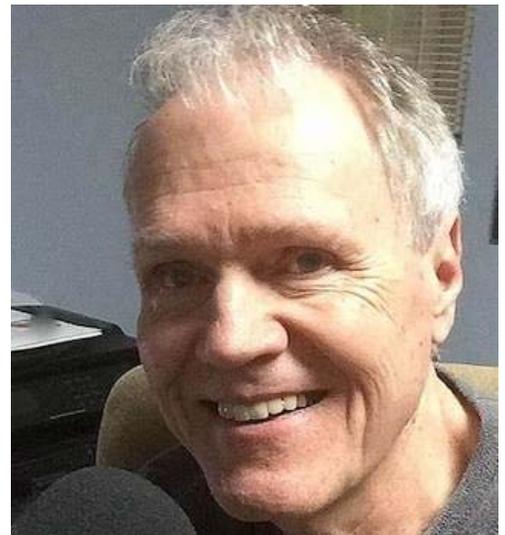
2:00pm Saturday, September 6, 2025

Vivian J. Lincoln Library

8829 McCart Avenue

Fort Worth, Texas

Our September quarterly meeting will be held at the Vivian J. Lincoln Library at 2 pm, September 6. Our speaker for the September meeting is **Rix Quinn**, Fort Worth native, editor, publisher and author of several books.



Rix's subject will be **Boomers!**. In researching a book Rix asked a number of baby boomers to share some of their memorable events which made the strongest impressions on them. What do Boomers share? How do they rate their school years and teachers? What were their most memorable days? Who influenced them the most? How can they make class reunions special? And now Rix makes 25 startling predictions for Boomers and their children. More about Rix on page 3.

Wow! What a fascinating topic. This will be a meeting you won't want to miss. 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 friends,

Happy Fall, Y'all!

Our Saturday lunch outings seem to be going well, so we will continue those for the foreseeable future. Many thanks to Judy for finding fun locations for us!

Our next quarterly meeting will feature Rix Quinn as our speaker. **Quinn, born and raised in Fort Worth, is an alum of Texas Christian University, and has spent his 25-plus year career as a national business magazine editor and publisher and syndicated newspaper columnist. He has also written daily humor features for syndicated radio shows.**

He has written several books, including Words That Stick (Ten Speed Press/Random House); and Baby Boomers Speak! and Small Steps (Booksurge.com).

We will again be meeting at Lincoln library is southwest Fort Worth. Please share this opportunity with others you know who might like to join us.

Jeri has been working plans a day or optionally overnight trip for us to a cultural heritage center in Oklahoma. More on that soon. Good news. It looks as though we will be able to reschedule a visit from the Sarasota club, which was canceled due to a hurricane last year, to next September or October (2026), as they would like to time their visit to coincide with the State Fair of Texas.

Finally, we will be requesting matches for some closer international journeys in the coming years, so more to come on

that next time.

Remember, we are always looking to expand our membership 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



SEPTEMBER QUARTERLY MEETING SPEAKER

Our September speaker is Rix Quinn. Rix was born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas. He holds a B.A. in journalism from Texas Christian University, and a M.A. (with thesis emphasis in persuasive writing) from California State University.

In his 25-plus year career, he's worked as a national business magazine editor and publisher, and as a syndicated newspaper columnist. He has also written daily humor features for syndicated radio shows.

He has written several books, including *Words That Stick* (Ten Speed Press/Random House); and *Baby Boomers Speak!* and *Small Steps* (Booksurge.com).

He has developed several e-books available for Amazon Kindle. His latest emphasizes the value of entertainment as the primary component of teaching. It's called *Micro Story: 25 Tips to Turn (Almost) Any Subject Into a Short Story*.

Rix also creates presentations for the magazine and newspaper publishing industries, and for the education service center and independent school district fields.

Quinn – primarily a biographer – specializes in teaching first-person interview techniques, biographical development, and micro-story creation.

He holds memberships in the Authors Guild, the Society of Professional Journalists, and the National Council for History Education.

2026 NORTH AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Save the Date for the next North American Conference - April 24 - 27, 2026 In Memphis, Tennessee.

The 2026 North American Conference will include speakers, presentations and workshops to assist attendees achieve learning skills to take home to our clubs. We can increase membership, increase attendance and most importantly: we can reach out to the community and share the message of the Friendship Force mission.

Stay tuned and keep watching for more information on my.friendshipforce.org

SAVE THE DATE!

April 24-27, 2026

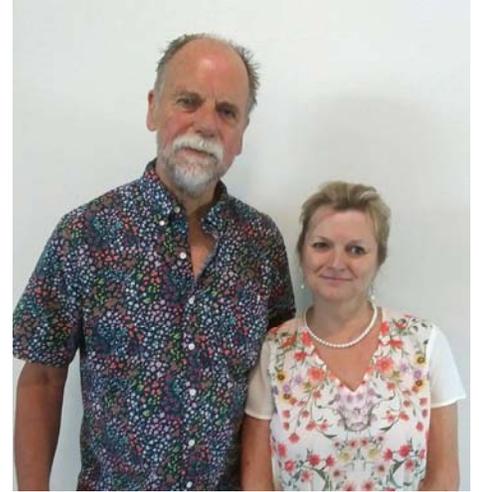
Memphis, Tennessee

**2026
North American
Regional
Conference**

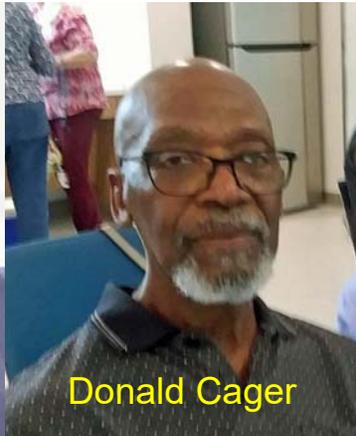


JUNE QUARTERLY MEETING

The June Quarterly Meeting was held at the new Vivian J. Lincoln Branch Library. The meeting was a rousing success with a jaw dropping ten guests in attendance. President Tanya Doyle was unable to attend so Jim Young moderated as well as arranged for and introduced the speaker. The speaker pictured here with Jim Young, was Dr. Deborah Liles, history Professor from Tarleton State University. Dr. Liles spoke of Slavery and Livestock in Tarrant County, Texas, 1849-1865. Her presentation included a plethora of information from tax records. Interestingly, we saw how wealth was garnered by farmers, ranchers and speculators starting in 1860 as they supplied the war effort.



Barbara Cager



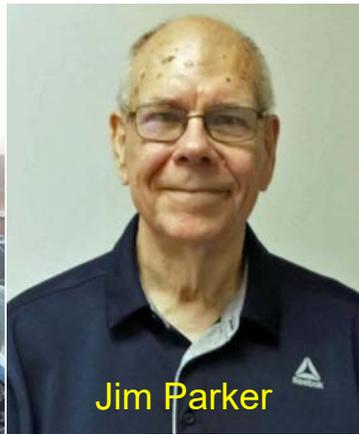
Donald Cager



Suzan Coyerway



Carolyn Knott



Jim Parker



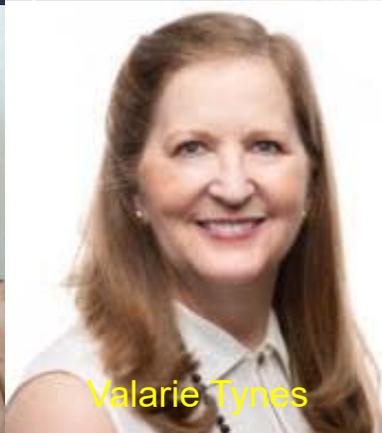
Kate Rindy



Cheryl Robison



Sondra Soria



Valarie Tynes



Thomas Wall
Simmons

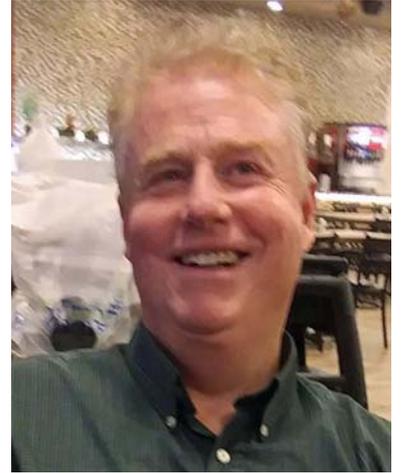
JAMES GODFREY UPDATE

Some members are aware but many may not be. Early last July Friendship Force member James Godfrey fell ill to a serious respiratory condition. His situation was so guarded that he resigned as treasurer of the club. Fortunately his condition has improved and he is now in rehab.

Sharon Jackson has assumed the office of Treasurer and she, Connie Cross and others have been assisting James with his needs. James can be reached here. I'm sure he would like to hear from you.

Interlochen Health and Rehabilitation Center
2645 W Randol Mill Road, Arlington, Texas 76012
Room 111

His phone number is 817-707-4869. Texting is probably better for him as he can't talk very easily due to his condition.



GRANBURY DAYTRIP

On June 27th 21 members of the FFFW club visited Granbury, Texas, first touring the Hood County Jail and Historical Museum. From there they visited the Granbury Doll House Museum with their 5000 doll collection. Afterward they attended a wine tasting at a private art gallery. From there they dined at Ketzer's Schnitzel Haus and Biergarten. Lastly they enjoyed the Musical *Hairspray* at the Granbury Opera House. Thanks to Jeri Edmunds for planning the event.



SUZANNE TAYLOR STEPHENS-PARKER 1942-2025



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Taylor Stephens-Parker after a long illness. Taylor was an active member and was on the Board for several years. She always smiled and extended hugs to fellow members. She is dearly missed. We extend our condolences to member Stan Parker and his family. Thank you, Taylor. And thank you, Stan for sharing Taylor with us.

DAY TRIP UPDATE

DAY TRIP TO EXPLORE NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE

Friday, October 3, 2025

Visit the Chickasaw Cultural Center at Sulfur, Oklahoma, (136 miles north of Ft. Worth: from I 35, exit right 77 going north; east on US 7; turn south onto Cooper Memorial Drive at McDonald's; Center is a mile south on the left.)

Meet at 10:30 am at the Welcome Center.

Visit the AAPISA art gallery, the Honor Garden, Exhibit Center for a stomp dance demonstration, the AAIMPA café for lunch, the Anoli Theater for short documentary films about Native American history, and the traditional village to explore the native world before removal to Indian Territory.

Admission: Seniors: approximately \$12.00 per person

Those who wish to go a day early or stay overnight on Friday should make their own reservations. There are numerous places to stay in the area.

Please let Jeri know if you're interested.

Email: jerilynedmunds@att.net

Text: 682-559-9335



JULY ETHNIC LUNCHEON

Our July Ethnic Luncheon was held at Nish! Mediterranean Grill at 4911 Ohio Garden Road in River Oaks. The food is always a treat. Our guests were Teri Gattis and Kathy McClaren's daughter, Cindy Sifonis. A board meeting was held afterward.



Thanks as always to Judy Williams for arranging our luncheons, If you wish to attend our Ethnic Luncheons please RSVP by Wednesday prior to the date with Judy by email jdithwilliams04@yahoo.com or text **817-680-9316** to assist in determining a reservation count.



AUGUST ETHNIC LUNCHEON

The July Ethnic Luncheon was held at Nan's Kitchen at 7403 John T. White Road in Fort Worth. Nana's is rated #1 Soul Food Restaurant in Texas which is a well deserved award.

Our guest was Stan Parker's brother Jim.

Our thanks go out to Judy Williams for the great job of selecting new locations for our luncheons. If you wish to attend our Ethnic Luncheons please RSVP by Wednesday prior to the date with Judy by email jdithwilliams04@yahoo.com or text **817-680-9316** to assist in determining a reservation count.



Plan Ahead

Further details are emailed each month, or can be found on the web page: 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

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 2:00 pm Vivian Lincoln Library Fort Worth
April 18, 2026	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
May 16, 2026	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
June 6, 2026	Quarterly Meeting 2:00 pm Vivian Lincoln Library Fort Worth
July 18, 2026	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
August 15, 2026	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
September 5, 2026	Quarterly Meeting 2:00 pm Vivian Lincoln Library Fort Worth
October 17, 2026	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
October, 2026	Inbound Sarasota Journey exact dates TBD
November 21, 2026	Ethnic Luncheon and Board Meeting Noon Location TBD
December 5th, 2026	Quarterly Meeting and Holiday Dinner TBD

- ◇ *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, 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 (FFW)

New Member Application Form — Calendar Year 2025

Name(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 informatio

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 2025

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: \$

Send applications, with payment to:
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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". Both names will be listed in the roster. "No Info Change" applies only to the contact information. Please complete the Interests section even if this is checked.

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.

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