



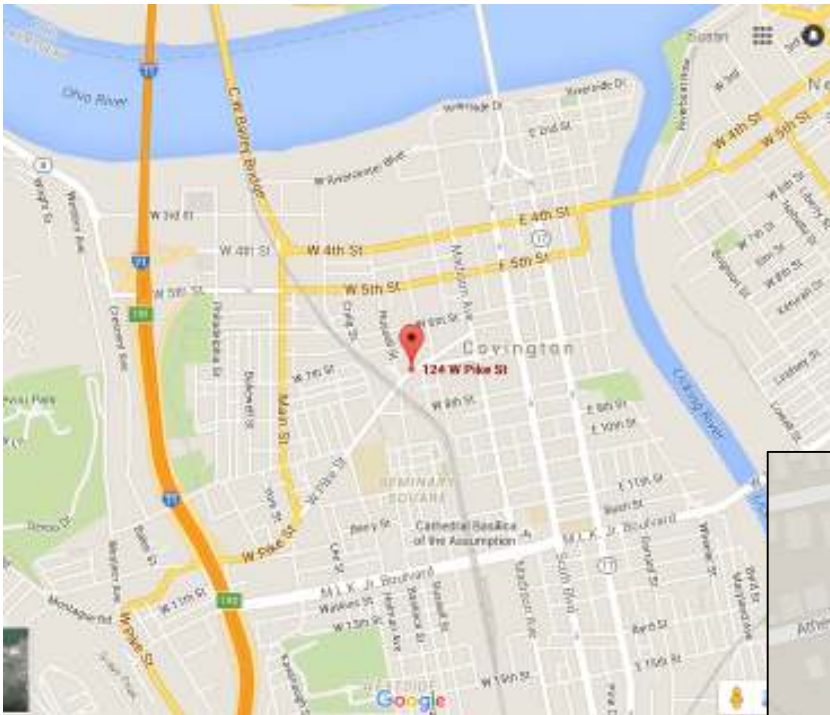
Newsletter

friendship force
GREATER CINCINNATI

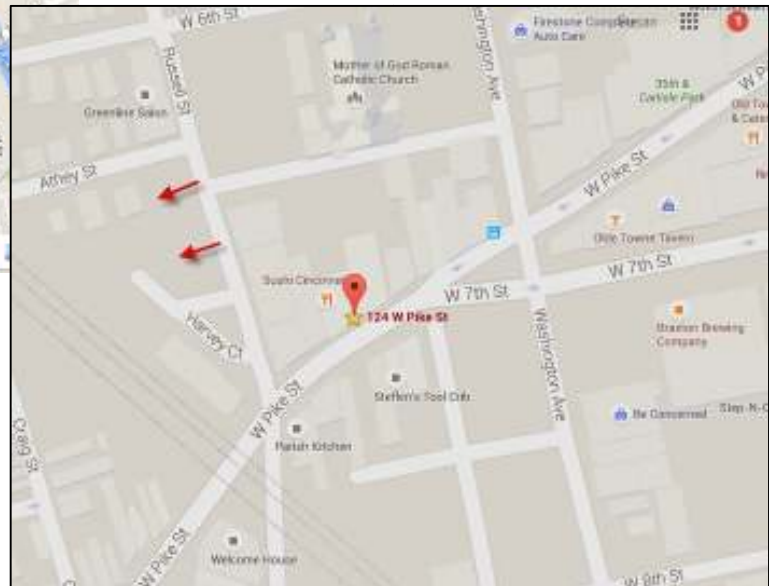
January, 2016

Upcoming Events

Saturday, January 23, 6PM Winter Fest, Sandra Small Gallery, 124 W. Pike St., Covington KY. A gathering to celebrate friendship! Please invite friends and family members who want to learn more about Friendship Force. We will begin the evening with appetizers and a short explanation of the purpose, goals, and workings of Friendship Force. There will also be a video running with slides of past exchanges to further encourage guests to join our club. A light dinner of ethnic foods will be provided by the club. Members are asked to bring either an appetizer or dessert, and wine or beer if desired. The club will provide soft drinks. Please contact Susan Schmidt at 859 635-2006 or nkysue@gmail.com to make reservations. A prize will be awarded to the member bringing the largest number of guests!



Sandra Small Gallery, 124 W. Pike St, Covington KY. Parking is available on Pike Street or in the lot off Russell (red arrows). The owner of the lot has allowed us to park there for free. Please do not park in the spaces directly behind the gallery (our usual spots for Board meetings), as these spots belong to residents. There is a lot off Washington, south of 7th, but you will have to pay to park here.



Schedule for 2016

Regular Meetings at First Unitarian-Universalist Church on Linton Avenue in Cincinnati with a pot luck meal and program presentation:

- Sunday, March 13, 2 – 5 PM (may be changed to Feb 21)
- Friday, May 20, 6-9 PM
- Wednesday, Sept 14, 6-9 PM Welcome Dinner for Leicestershire, UK club
- Sunday, November 20, 2-5PM

Gatherings:

- March or April
- June 25, 4PM Picnic at the Hornsby's
- August
- October

Board Meetings, Sandra Small Gallery, 124 W. Pike, Covington, 3:30PM:

- Tuesday, January 26
- Tuesday, April 18
- Saturday, June 25, 2:00 PM, the Hornsby's
- Tuesday, August 16
- Tuesday, October 18
- Tuesday, December 13

2016 Regional Meeting



The Midwest Region and our Great Lakes Region will be holding a joint Regional Meeting April 28 – May 1 in Davenport, Iowa. The conference will feature presentations and workshops designed to strengthen Friendship Force clubs. The FF Club of the Quad Cities is planning several optional activities such as a paddle boat ride on the Mississippi, biking along the Mississippi, and birding (this area is a major flyway for migrating birds). The conference hotel is the new Holiday Inn and Suites, 4215 Elmore Ave., Davenport, IA. Registration details should be available by the end of January and will be posted on our website: www.friendshipforcecincinnati.org. Several members of our club plan to attend.

If you would like to join them, please contact Phil Schmidt (philschmidt45@gmail.com) so we can plan car pools.

Gift to Friendship Force International

Last year Friendship Force International notified member clubs that the organization needed to upgrade its web site and data base systems. It set a goal of raising \$40,000 for the project. In November, our club voted to send \$500.00 to FFI to show our support for the continuing development of Friendship Force

2016 Outbound Exchanges

Orlando Florida, March 11-18

Eight of our members will be joining Friendship Force members from Greater Lansing, Milwaukee, and Western Kentucky in an exchange with the Friendship Force Club of Greater Orlando during March 11th through the 18th. The exchange will feature a visit to Gatorland theme park and wildlife preserve, a Winter Park boat tour, exploration of Blue Spring State Park, and a tour of Kennedy Space Center.



Brazil, April 7- April 28



Beth Duff is leading this exchange which combines Friendship Force home stay exchanges at clubs in Rio de Janeiro and Ribeirao Preto with outdoor adventures in the Pantanal and a visit to the world famous Iguazu Falls.

Total cost: \$3100, not including round trip airfare from the U.S. Please be aware that this exchange will require some walking and getting in and out of boats and trucks.

More information can be found in the World of Friends Catalog on the FFI web site: www.friendshipforce.org:

Applications can be filed electronically or on paper and set to Beth Duff, 1285 Paddock Hills Ave., Cincinnati OH 45229, bethduff@fuse.net 513 242-8387. You can download an application from the web page: <http://www.friendshipforcecincinnati.org/outbound-exchanges.html>

Applications should be in by Jan 23.

2016 Inbound Exchange with Leicestershire

The date for our inbound exchange with Leicestershire, England has been set for Sept 14 – Sept 20, 2016. Please write this date on your calendars and plan to participate as either a home host, a day host, or a dinner host. The welcome dinner will be on Wednesday, September 14, at the First Unitarian-Universalist Church on Linton Avenue. We have 23 ambassadors who will be visiting us! Please contact Judy Hornsby at 513 403-4407 if you would like to home host, day host or dinner host our guests.

Use Amazon to Support FFI

If you don't know about Amazon Smiles and you shop at Amazon, you should. If you don't have a favorite charity that is listed you can support Friendship Force International every time you shop there by signing in via <http://smile.amazon.com/> instead of just "amazon.com"

From here you can type 'friendship force international' in the box on the bottom right, select Friendship Force International from the list that pops up, and then for ease bookmark that page for the future.

Amazon gives 0.5% of the purchase to the charity of your choosing. Not a lot, but with lots of folks doing this it could provide a fair amount to support our International Organization.

Getting the Travel Bug?

The World of Friends Catalog has a variety of exchanges listed that currently have openings. The link to the catalog is <http://catalog.thefriendshipforce.org> Around the 15th of each month you should be receiving an email from FFI with a link to the catalog. If you are not receiving monthly email notices from FFI, please let Phil Schmidt know, so that he can be sure FFI adds you to their database. His email address is philschmidt45@gmail.com

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SEE THE WORLD**
thefriendshipforce.org