



**THE FRIENDLY ECHO**  
**FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF WINNIPEG NEWSLETTER**



Volume 24 Issue 1 January, February, March, 2024

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT - MARCH 2024 - Nina Logan**

In February we had a very entertaining and practical speaker from the Winnipeg Police Force and in March we celebrated World Friendship Day with the Manitoba club. We were treated to a wonderful speaker who gave us lots of information and some hope for Climate Change. We were also given a little tree starter kit which I gave to a friend so he could plant a tree to celebrate the fact that he had just become a grandfather to quadruplets. In April we are looking forward to the speaker from the Winnipeg Library. Thanks to Susan for her amazing organization and creativity. We are always entertained by her activities and speakers.

Elizabeth G. and Jim K. gave a wonderful presentation at the Charleswood Active Living Centre and as a result, we are welcoming back Adele and Jim McMurtrie who have just rejoined FFW. We also have interest from two others who are attending the April lunch.

The Journey co-ordinators and their committees have been busy planning activities for our Inbound in June from San Diego and Quad Cities. The Outbound in September is now full with ten travelling to Leicestershire, England.

We have been informed that we will receive our Journey matches from FFI in April.

The Conference in Milwaukee is coming up in October. Information for that and a variety of other useful information is to be found at [my.friendshipforce.org](http://my.friendshipforce.org)

I would like to thank all the members who contribute in so many ways to make our club so successful!

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**FFW WALKING GROUP - Linda Dart**

The Walking Group has been meeting regularly at the Outlet Mall at 10 am on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. As soon as the ice is melted off the sidewalks we will be meeting at the entrance to the English Garden and we will walk around Assiniboine Park. If the meeting point changes a group email will be sent out a couple of days prior to the walk.

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## ACTIVITIES REPORT - Susan Munroe

I want to thank all the members who have made the effort and joined us over the winter months supporting the programs we have offered.

On January 11, twenty-four members were treated to a wonderful floral trip around the world at The Leaf's presentation of Fleur Des Villes, a spectacular display of mannequins adorned to represent a chosen country's theme through decorations of fresh plant and floral product. After viewing, the attendees were asked to vote for their favourite display....and the winners were:

1<sup>st</sup> China, 2<sup>nd</sup> India, 3<sup>rd</sup> Japan, 4<sup>th</sup> Manitoba, 5<sup>th</sup> Ethiopia.

I conducted a poll among our members. Congratulations to Susan M, Diane, Shirley and Lavona for picking the winner! (See photo on next page.) After the tour we had a lovely lunch get-together at the Park Café.

Our latest gathering on March 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Wellington, was a joint meeting with the Manitoba club in honour of World Friendship Day. The event was well attended with 60 members participating.

Our guest speaker was Curtis Hull from Climate Change Connections. In his knowledgeable and engaging presentation, Curt exposed us to many options that demonstrate how a sustainable future is possible without reliance on fossil fuels. Despite the overwhelming problems facing these transitions, after Curt's presentation, we all seemed to come away from the presentation enlightened and hopeful.

Anyone wanting to further pursue this topic can refer to Curt's report, "The Road to Resilience" and the follow up series, "The Road to Resilience: Energy Solutions", published through the Manitoba Climate Action Team.

Our April meeting will return to Smitty's, 1629 Kenaston Blvd. Chris Laurie from the Winnipeg Public Library Outreach department will enlighten us on all the resources and services available to us through the Library Services.

Hope to see you there!

Happy Spring Everyone!

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The winning display at the Leaf, depicting China, with club members Linda D. and Shirley M.

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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

**January**  
Melonee Collins

**February**  
Barbara Ammeter  
Dave Campbell  
Jennifer King  
Debbie Spracklin

**March**  
Joe Daniel  
David Judge  
Kathy Lesyk  
Susan Munroe  
Gladys Spracklin  
Paul van Leeuwen  
Diane Beresford  
Hank Riese

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## **JOURNEY CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT - Heather Gusnowsky**

We have an inbound Journey from San Diego, CA, and Quad City, IOWA, combined. They will arrive on June 4th and depart on June 11th. The itinerary is mostly planned. As well as several things that we will be doing around the city, we plan to go to Gimli for the day on June 6th . We have not received all the applications yet, but it looks like we will have 20 people in all coming. to Winnipeg. Lorraine F. and Elizabeth G. are the Journey Directors.

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## **FFW BOOK CLUB REPORT - Nina Logan**

We have been meeting over Zoom the last Thursday of each month to discuss the book of the month. Twelve members are registered as Book Club Members, but the number on Zoom varies from month to month. Some loyal bibliophiles even Zoom in from way down south or wherever they happen to be vacationing. Not too late to join the fun, just email Nina.

March 28 - The German Girl - Armando Lucas Correa

April 25 - Where Children Run - Karen Emilson

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## **FFW ON-LINE BRIDGE GROUP - Carol De Baets**

There are several members away, but bridge carries on from the various holiday spots! We have booked our FFW wind-up bridge for Tuesday afternoon, May 14th. Thank you to Joe and Val K. who have generously offered to co-facilitate this event with me in their party room.

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## **A FEW FUNNIES FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT**

- The adult version of “head, shoulders, knees and toes is wallet, glasses, keys and phone.
- What did the horse say after it tripped? Help! I’ve fallen and I can’t giddy-up!
- What did the triangle say to the circle? You’re pointless.
- RIP, boiling water. You will be mist.
- Why can't you trust the king of the jungle? Because he's always lion.
- What do you call a sad strawberry? A blue berry!

## EDITORS' CORNER - ODDS AND ENDS

Please remember to wear your name badge to meetings and events (helpful to new members and to those with bad memories).

To encourage people to become members of our club, do make use of the cards given to you at the Christmas meeting. Also, if you have not already done so, for your own knowledge and enjoyment, read **“The Other Side of the Mountain, Bridging the Great Divide - the Friendship Force Story”**.

And a reminder for book lovers, we will be having our Annual Book Sale at the May meeting. Please bring any books you no longer want and stock up for summer reading.

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**Footnote:** For those touring Cornwall after the Leicestershire Journey, below is a glimpse of Tintagel (Google King Arthur). Since this photo was taken in 2010 a bridge has been built - making less steps to climb!



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