



Newsletter

friendship force
GREATER CINCINNATI

January, 2021

"encouraging all people to share in international friendships
and global understanding"

Upcoming Events

Please check our
web site calendar
for the latest
schedule:

[www.friendshipforce
cincinnati.org](http://www.friendshipforcecincinnati.org)

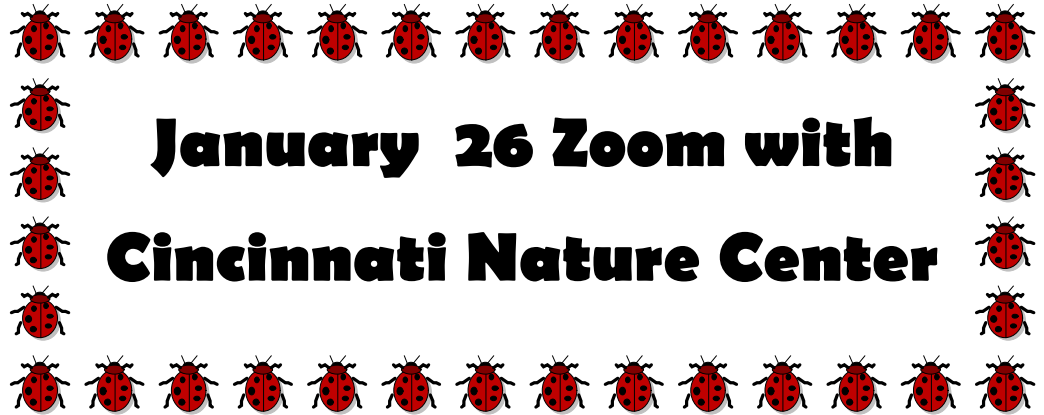
Tues, Jan 26, 6 PM
Zoom presentation
by Cincinnati Nature
Center.

Tues, Feb 8, 2:30PM,
Zoom Board meet-
ing.

Fri, Feb. 12, 2:00PM.
"Faces and Places,
Ohio" live on FFI
Zoom

Sun, Feb. 21,
6:00PM Zoom gath-
ering with Refugee
Connect.

March 17, time TBA
Zoom event to
meet the Open
World travelers
from Ukraine who
were scheduled to
come here in 2020



January 26 Zoom with Cincinnati Nature Center

On Tuesday, January 26, 6:00 PM, our club will 'gather` for a Zoom presentation with Dr. Cory Christopher of the Cincinnati Nature Center. The program to be presented is entitled "Nature in Winter and the Impact of Climate Change on Local Conditions". Dr. Christopher is the Director of the Center for Conservation and Stewardship at the Nature Center. The *Center* was established to promote research, develop education programs, increase conservation efforts and protect greenspace in our region. The *Center* is invested in the preservation and restoration of native habitats in and around the *Cincinnati* TriState region. Their approach is holistic, and their view of the natural areas across SW Ohio is one of integrated landscapes; that is, people and wildlife living together.

Please join us for this opportunity to learn more about the work being done by the Cincinnati Nature Center. The Zoom link will be sent to all members before the event.

Dr. Cory Christopher



From Our Co-Presidents

Have you had a chance to participate in any Virtual Experiences offered by FFI? If you're looking for a diversion from politics and the pandemic for an hour or so, they offer a chance to learn something new and maybe make a new friend.

Current sessions are announced on the FFI website at blog.friendshipforce.org/virtual-experiences. Coming up there's a trivia quiz, a poetry appreciation session in Spanish and a class on creating watercolor valentines.

Sessions are recorded and continue to be available for viewing at your convenience. The Faces and Places programs allow you to experience the land, culture and people of such places as Romania, Brazil, Siberia and...Ohio!

In October I began collaborating with Jackie Herriman, Bambi Saxe and Byron Wade on an Ohio presentation. Jackie is our Great Lakes Regional Field Representative, as well as a co-president of the Northeast Ohio club. Bambi is the president and Byron is a board member of the Dayton Club. Together we compiled photos and selected stories to share about what makes our area unique. We had many practice sessions and rewrites and now "Faces and Places: Ohio" will have its worldwide premiere—ready or not!

"Faces and Places: Ohio" will be available live on Friday, February 12 at 2 pm EST. If you wish to join the 'live' session Feb 12, you must register in advance in order to receive the Zoom link. After Feb. 12, you can just go to the website mentioned above and click on the presentation to view it. **I hope you can join us!**

In Friendship,

Katie Campbell and Janet Walsh

How To Pay Your 2021 Dues

Our club dues for 2021 are \$35 for an individual and \$60 for a couple. To pay your dues, download and print the [annual membership form](#) from our website (www.friendshipforcecincinnati.org/our-club.html) or print the one attached to the email with this newsletter. Fill out the form, make out a check to Friendship Force Cincinnati, and send both to Beth Duff, 1285 Paddock Hills Ave., Cincinnati OH 45229

Our Club Meetings in 2021

With the vaccine coming to Ohio and Kentucky, we can all breathe a little easier and see the light of hope. But until we all feel safe, we will continue with Zoom. Plans for the future include:

- ◆ Tues, Jan. 26, 6PM program given by the Cincinnati Nature Center
- ◆ Fri, Feb. 12, 2PM The "Faces and Places, Ohio" program that we prepared along with the clubs from Dayton and NE Ohio, will be given via Zoom. Please join the Zoom meeting so that you can help tell the story of our region!
- ◆ Sun, Feb 21, 6PM Zoom meeting of our club with a presentation by Refugee Connect. This is a part of the Board's effort to find ways of building international friendships, even if we cannot travel.
- ◆ Wed, March 17, Time TBD The people from Ukraine who had planned to take part in our Open World program in 2020 would like to meet us via Zoom! They are hoping to reschedule the Open World program sometime in the future.

Travel with Friendship Force in 2021

Are you starting to get the travel bug??? While our club does not have a scheduled journey in 2021, the staff of FFI has been busy planning journey opportunities for 2021. They have planned the following:

- ◆ Croatia & Slovenia: The Old World Adriatic, July 10–21, 2021 (These are both beautiful countries!)
- ◆ Discover Mongolia & Ulan-Ude Russia, July 24–Aug 7
- ◆ Festival at Sea Cruise to Northern Europe, Aug 28–Sept 12
- ◆ Best of Scotland, Aug 29–Sept 8
- ◆ Krasnogorsk and Veliky Novgorod, Russia, Sept 10–25
- ◆ Grand Tour of Italy, Oct 2– Oct 16

For more information about any of these journeys, go to:

<https://www.friendshipforce.org/journeys/>

Don't hesitate to click the button 'Interested in this journey?' to send a message to the Journey Director and get more information.

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD**

In Memory of Warren

By Sonia Derge

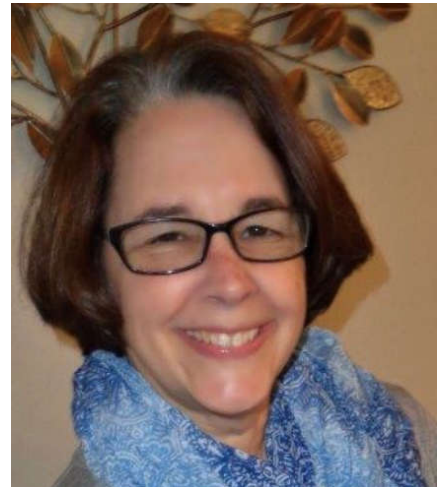
We have received word that longtime member Warren Sublette passed away on January 14 from COVID, which he came down with on Christmas Day. Arrangements for Warren are pending. If you refer to his biography in our February 2020 Newsletter, you will see that Warren had a second career as a winemaker here in Ohio. He always brought wine to share at the meetings he attended. He also brought a very acerbic, very funny sense of humor to those meetings. Warren was quite a traveler. When he went on our Outbound Exchange to Liuzhou in the People's Republic of China he added a five-week extension to other countries on the Pacific Rim.

Getting to Know You!

by Sonia Derge

This column is written in the interest of helping each of us to learn more about the other members of our club. Meet:

Judy Moermond is a Cincinnati through and through, having lived in the area for all of her life. She currently lives in Cherry Grove, which is not far from her roots in Anderson Township. She has three sons, Ben, Matt and Josh. Those sons are being covered more than others of our many Friendship Force offspring have been. The reason? Ben and Matt have had their lives impacted by the virus, and I wanted to share a sense of the collateral damage the virus can do. Ben, the eldest, is a bassoonist who has lived in Hong Kong for 10 years as he is the principal bassoonist with the Hong Kong Philharmonic. His work schedule has of course been impacted. Matt is an audio technician who lives in Vancouver Washington. He works for a production company that puts on large extravaganzas complete with very attention getting sound effects. May he be doing that again soon as it is not possible now. Her youngest son, Josh, lives in Cincinnati, and is at UC as a Higher Education Specialist. Who would have thought the educator's life would be the least impacted by the virus? Both he and his wife, a special education teacher, have had their lives changed, but not to the extent for Ben and Matt.



Judy retired in August as an IT Project Manager at Children's Hospital. She started her career there in 1986 in what was a very typical way for women at the time - she was hired as a secretary. She got into the IT field along the way, and loved being a manager of large IT projects. Her retirement has not gone exactly as planned, as she thought she would be traveling more. She is now into decorative painting in acrylics, and wants to learn how to do water colors. She is also a Red Cross volunteer, and is learning how to support other volunteers who have deployed to emergencies. In her spare time, she is trying to learn how to quilt. More power to her.

Getting to Know You, Cont'd

Judy Moermond cont'd If anyone would like to hear Judy's son Ben play, the Hong Kong Philharmonic just recently uploaded his recital to YouTube (<https://youtu.be/9itLHxNxcM>)



Grace Murdoch grew up in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. She came to the states to go to college, as there were greater educational opportunities available for women here than there were in Canada at the time. She did her undergraduate work at Asbury College, a Liberal Arts college near Lexington KY. She met her husband Norman there when they were both undergraduates. They came to Cincinnati after graduation for the job opportunities offered to them by the University of Cincinnati (UC). They both received their PhD's from UC and they both were at UC for 35 years. Norman taught History for the 35 years, and Grace taught Psychology for 30 years and was in Administration for 5 years. She had a private practice for a part of that time; also three children: two sons and one daughter. After they retired, they moved to Medford OR, near where their son lived. They had 21 acres and three horses, one of which was born in their barn. That horse came with her to Cincinnati when she returned here in 2015 after her husband died. Her Cincinnati granddaughter is an equestrienne, and rides that formerly from Oregon horse.

Norman had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, and Grace was with him for the six years of what Nancy Reagan so gently called the long goodbye. Grace is enjoying the Friendship Force kind of travel in which you really get to know people as individuals. She has been to New Zealand with our club and to Ecuador and Columbia on an exchange with people from various clubs. Like so many of us, she is looking forward to life returning to something more normal.

Mimi Bailey is originally from a suburb outside of Philadelphia; she currently lives in the Finneytown area. She came to Cincinnati to attend U.C. and majored in social work and has a BSW. After working as a social worker for seven years, her later positions were outside of that field. She was an event planner for many years and then became a corporate concierge and did that for nine years. She eventually was a manager for LesConcierges, a West Coast Company and managed 11 concierges around the country for Fidelity Investments for another nine years. She is now working in her originally chosen career, in an Employee Assistance Program located in Tri-County. As for her family and personal life, there was a period when she stayed home to raise her two children. Her son lives in the Landen area with his family, and her daughter lives in Columbus, OH, with her family. She keeps busy in her personal life as a member of a book club (Wine, Women and Words) as well as the Vineyard Church. More power to her in her physical activities as she is a cross country skier, line dancer and a paddle boarder.

