



friendship force
COLUMBIA-CASCADE

Friendship Force Flyer

Columbia Cascade
Portland, OR/Vancouver, WA



President's Corner

Georgie Buckler

Hello to our wonderful FFCC members,
I have just found out that we need three additional home hosts placements for the Oklahoma City Journey. Can you host an ambassador or two in your home?

Please call me at 303-503-6670.



There are fun activities coming up for all of us with the Incoming Oklahoma City Journey Oct 8-15, 2019. **On page 9, use the signup sheet for the activities in which you would like to participate.** There is lots of room, it is low cost and we will earn from different presenters. We can carpool and I am willing to drive if we fill our vans. Also, let me know if you can help by being a day host or by bringing desserts to the dinners. **Join in and send in your choices NOW!!!**

I want to extend a GIGANTIC thank you to all of the people who have participated in the planning for the Oklahoma Journey:

Laural Engeman, Aggie Blackmer, Mary Dickson, Sherry Renard, Billie Greene, Mary Lu Wilson, Scott and Jane Morrill, Gwen White, Jim Arnoux, Marty Muncie, Marguerite Morin, Bonnie Plummer, Sam Gebala, Pat Stryker, Carol Higgins.

Also, thank you to Mary Dickson for being the JC for the Wichita/The Villages Journey and to Lori Reynolds for planning the picnic with Mid-Willamette Valley FF.

On November 16, our Annual Meeting and Potluck will be at the Clark County Public

Page	Table of Contents
1	President's Corner
2	Contacts and Calendar
3-6	Past Journeys & Events
7-9	Upcoming Events & Incoming Journey
9	Sign-up for Oklahoma City Journey activities
10	Future Outgoing Journey
11-14	Articles of Interest
15	Membership Application

Utilities building on 1200 Ft. Vancouver Way, Vancouver from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM. Please let me know if you can help set up or clean up. Potlucks bring us together to catch up with each other and our journeys. Thank you to Richard Chapel who has signed us up and will be letting us into the facility.

Regretfully, we will need a new treasurer as we are losing Bill Gregory. Elections will be at the November Annual Meeting. Please throw your name into the pot for any positions you are interested in. Donna Egan and Sharon Dawson are working on the Grace White Award and will announce the honoree at the Annual Meeting.

It takes all of us to keep our club a well oiled machine. We need and appreciate each and every one of you.
See you all soon,
Georgie

CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD

Columbia Cascade Calendar



2019

- Sept 14 **Peace and Justice Fair**, Esther Short Park,
8th & Columbia St., Vancouver, WA 9:00am - 4:00pm
Coordinator: Marguerite Hills

- Sept 24 **Cultural Understanding: Hellenic-American Cultural Center**
Museum & Taste Travelers lunch at 11:00am,
3131 NE Glisan St, Portland, OR

- Oct 1 **Taste Travelers “C’est la Vie”** at 12:30pm, 1307 NE 78th St,
Vancouver, WA

- Oct 8-15 **Oklahoma City Incoming Domestic Journey**
JC: Georgie Buckler (See activities & sign up list pages 7- 9)

- Oct 29-Nov 5 **Wichita, Kansas Outgoing Domestic Journey**
- Nov 5-12 **The Villages, Florida Outgoing Domestic Journey**
JC: Mary Dickson

- Nov 16 **FFCC Annual Meeting & Potluck, Clark County PUD** at
11:30am - 3:00pm, 1200 Fort Vancouver, Vancouver, WA
(Open at 10:00am, please come early to help set up)

- Dec TBA **Holiday Party & Christmas Ships**
Donna Egan’s 12321 SE Evergreen HWY, Vancouver 98683

2020-2022

- May 21-23, 2020 FFI Super Regional Conference, Portland, OR at
Shilo Inn at Portland International Airport.

- April 1-8, 2020 Baton Rouge, LA Outgoing Domestic Journey
- May/June 2020 Mt. Barker, Australia Incoming International Journey

- 2021 Sapporo, Japan Outgoing International Journey
- 2021 Colorado Springs, CO Outgoing Domestic Journey
- 2021 Baton Rouge, LA Incoming Domestic Journey

- 2022 Sapporo, Japan Incoming International Journey
- 2022 Colorado Springs Incoming Domestic Journey

Journey Coordinators Wanted!
Contact Gwen White for an application!

For information or to sign up to participate in these events email. ffc.events@gmail.com

Officers

- Georgie Buckler**
President

- Gayle Jimenez**
Vice President

- Gwen White**
Secretary

- Bill Gregory**
Treasurer

- Laural Engeman**
Journey Treasurer

- Georgia Bailey**
Members-at-Large

- Gwen White**
Past President

Board Committee
Chairpersons

- Sharon Dawson**
Membership
503-327-4152

- Larry Spiegel**
Historian

- Mary Dickson**
Activities

- Emily Smith**
Parliamentarian

- Lori Reynolds**
Communications/Webmaster

- Pam Brown & Wayne Potter**
Journey Coordinators

Coordinators

- Dick Van Ingen**
Email Coordinator

- Emily Smith & Marguerite Morin**
Hospitality

Newsletter

- Marty Muncie**
Graphic Design & Layout

Past Journeys & Events

Austria Incoming International Journey 23-30 July 2019

by Journey Coordinator Gwen White



It was a wonderful visit by the Austrians. They were delightful and the week went by quickly. On July 23 we met 12 of them at the train station in Vancouver and went to Donna Egan's home on the Columbia River for a lovely welcome dinner.

The next day we bussed to the coast with a stop in Tillamook at the Cheese Factory, lunch at the Oyster Restaurant and a long walk on the beach at Cannon Beach. We only lost one ambassador. Georgia Bailey told wonderful stories depicting the history of the Oregon Coast. We enjoyed the fabulous old fashioned molasses cookies she brought, complete with the recipe.



Georgie Buckler led the Vancouver day with a tour of Fort Vancouver, the Barracks, Marshall House and the Providence Academy. In the evening, we attended hosted dinners in member's homes.

The Columbia River Gorge/Mt Hood day was a beautiful sunny day. We hiked, stopped at Multnomah Falls, and had a picnic lunch on the Columbia River in Hood River. At Timberline Lodge we had a tour of the history of the lodge.



Larry Spiegel led the Portland day starting at the Chinese Garden, going to Saturday Market for lunch

and browsing in the market. We continued walking through downtown Portland ending at the Portland Art Museum and Oregon Historical Society.



On the last day, the weather remained lovely for our visit to the Rose Garden which was in full color and aroma. Mary Dickson gave an excellent tour of the beautiful Japanese Gardens. In the evening, everyone enjoyed a Farewell salmon dinner at my home.

These journeys only happen with a lot of people helping. I am appreciative of everyone's participation and would like to thank them for their contribution. If I have left anyone out, I apologize. Thank you all.

Donna Egan - hosted the Welcome Dinner

Doris Moore - helped with set up for Welcome dinner

Bill Gregory - helped with set up and clean up for Welcome and Farewell dinners

Fred and Marian Rauch - initial request for using the Willamette View bus

Wayne Potter - followed up with acquiring use of the Willamette View bus and hosted Austrian ambassador

Pam Brown - hosted Austrian ambassador

Georgia Buckler - story teller for the bus ride to the coast and day hosted

Emily Smith - helped with set up for Welcome dinner, assisted with activities on the bus, hosted Austrian ambassador, and organized the ambassador gift bags

Georgie Buckley - planned and led the Vancouver Day, arranged for food with the caterer for Welcome and Farewell Dinners, and hosted Austrian ambassador

Sharon Dawson - small hosted dinner

Kathie Kimmy - assisted with small hosted dinner, assisted with planning of small hosted dinners, helped with clean up at Farewell dinner
Ray Curry - small hosted dinner
Jacki and Marvin Lindquist with Marguerite Morin - small hosted dinner
Betty Miller - chef for small hosted dinner at Laural Engeman's
Marty Muncie - arranged small hosted dinners, host/ambassador photos
Lori Reynolds - organized the Gorge and Mt Hood day, hosted dinner for several ambassadors and hosts
Pat Reynolds - driver of a van on the Gorge/Mt Hood day
Laural Engeman - designed the Austrian Journey brochure, driver for the Columbia River Gorge/Mt Hood day, hosted Austrian ambassadors, journey treasurer
Larry Spiegel - organized and planned the Portland day, helped with set up for Farewell dinner
Corinne Spiegel - helped with set up for Farewell dinner
Mary Dickson - led the tour at the Japanese Garden, hosted Austrian ambassadors
Lori Benton - day hosted
Carol Higgins - day hosted
Gayle Jimenez - helped with table decorations for Farewell dinner
Bonnie Plummer - provided wine for the Farewell Dinner
Marguerite Morin - helped with set up for Welcome and Farewell dinners, helped with small dinner
Sherry Renard - picked up food for Farewell dinner, hosted Austrian ambassador
Mary Lu Wilson - hosted Austrian ambassadors
Jim Arnoux - helped with set up for Welcome and Farewell Dinner, general support for the Journey Coordinator (me), hosted Austrian ambassadors.
Gwen White - Journey/host coordinator; hosted Austrian ambassadors.

Taste Travelers and Tour of Vancouver Waterfront on August 15, 2019

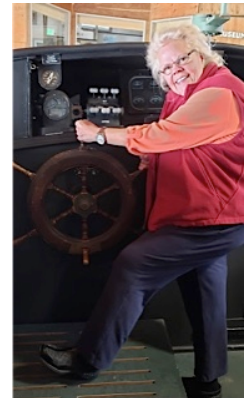
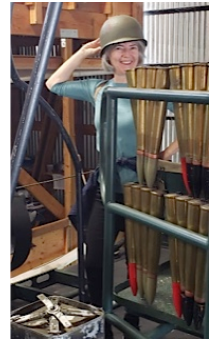


Pat Stryker, a new member, provided a small group of FFCC'ers with a wonderful tour of the redeveloped Vancouver Waterfront on a lovely sunny day in August. Pat has worked in a variety of capacities before and during the project and gave us information on the history of the area as well as on the current expansion. Following our walking tour, we had lunch outside at Twigs Bistro. Thanks to Pat for sharing her insights. By Mary Dickson



Tour of PT 658 on August 19, 2019

Georgie Buckler arranged a tour of PT 658, a World War II wooden boat presently being restored at a dock on Swan Island. A number of FFCC members and guests had a guided tour of the boat and the adjacent museum. It was a fascinating story. We were impressed by the dedication of the volunteers doing the restoration. By Mary Dickson



Friendship between
Mid-Willamette Valley
& Columbia Cascade
Friendship Force
Picnic at Champoege
State Park on August 24, 2019



Upcoming Events & Incoming Journey

Cultural Understanding Event, Tuesday, September 24, 2019

On Tuesday, September 24, as part of our Cultural Understanding series, we will meet at the Hellenic American Cultural Center and Museum, 3131 NE Glisan Street at 11 AM. This museum was created to gather, preserve, and share the knowledge of the Hellenic (Greek) American experience in Oregon and Southwest Washington. It celebrates the rich cultural tradition brought to this region by the Hellenes, and honors the activities and accomplishments of Hellenic Americans. A current exhibit includes pottery, the theater, literature of ancient Greece, vases, masks, and costumes.

We will have lunch at a neighborhood restaurant. Details are still being finalized, so watch your emails for further information soon.

Mary Dickson, Activities Chairperson



Incoming Oklahoma City Journey, Oct. 8-15th, 2019

Journey Coordinator, Georgie Buckler



We need three additional home host placements for Oklahoma City.

Contact Georgie if you can host. mrs.buckler@outlook.com 303-503-6670

Tuesday Oct. 8th Three of the Oklahoma City group will be landing at noon. Two are driving in shortly thereafter. Whomever can join the hosts at the airport should plan on being there about 11:30 AM. We can meet on the departure level by the windows near the American Airlines check in. We can then go to Shorewood West (5545 E Evergreen Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661). Georgie will encourage them to bring their swim suits. Hosts can give them the option of swimming, settling in, going down to see the Vancouver Waterfront area or old Fort Vancouver. The Welcome Dinner will be at Donna Eagan's home at 4:30 PM at 12321 SE Evergreen Highway, Vancouver, WA. Aggie and Mike, Rodger and Mary will come ahead of time to set up. Salmon, scalloped potatoes and green beans. Members will bring desserts. Please let Georgie know if you are bringing dessert. Coffee, lemonade and wine will be provided. Member's cost will be \$12.00. Let Georgie know if you can stay to help clean up. Emily will pass out the gift bags she is making and Laural will put together our week's guide books.

Wednesday Oct. 9th We will meet at the Bob's Red Mill operation building at 13521 SE Pheasant Court, Milwaukie, OR (not the store/restaurant) at 9:45 AM for an hour and a half long tour followed by lunch at the Bob's Red Mill store/restaurant at 5000 SE International Way, Milwaukie, OR. The ambassadors will be given money to buy their lunch. Our members will buy their own. At 12:30 PM we will head to The End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, (1726 Washington St, Oregon City, OR 97045) \$9.00 is the entrance fee for our members. After our tour, we will go to the McLaughlin house (213 Center Street, Oregon City, OR 97045) for a tour, view the waterfalls, and then head home or to The Highland House Scottish Pub (201 S. 2nd St, Oregon City, OR 97045) for drinks/food at everyone's own expense or hosts can plan dinner. The ambassadors and their hosts can decide. Gwen is organizing this day.

Thursday Oct. 10th The plan is to leave Shorewood West Parking lot (5535 E. Evergreen Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661) in a van at 9:00 AM. If you want to be picked up at the Troutdale Mall about 9:30 AM let us

know. We will drive to Timberline Lodge for a tour (\$10.00 for the van ride). Soup and salad bar will be our lunch (\$25.00 for our members) to dine and tour. Well worth it. Then we will head to Multnomah Falls, Vista Point, and the Women's Forum for scenic views. We should return about 4:00 PM. Water and snacks will be on the bus. Dinner with hosts. We can use the Shorewood West REC party room if some members want to provide a potluck for us upon our return. Pat Stryker is our organizer for this day and our driver.

Friday Oct. 11th Jane and Scott Morrill will be picking us up at the Shorewood West parking lot (5535 E. Evergreen Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661) in a van with a departure time of 9:00 AM for a trip to Cannon Beach. If you need to be picked up at the Home Depot lot off of HWY 26, Exit 67 on Murray, let us know. At the Buxton Trestle we will enjoy coffee and donuts provided by the Morrill's and take a 15 minute walk. Water bottles will be filled at the nearby spring followed by a trip to Cannon Beach and Ecola Park if the van can go up there. Lunch is at the Public Beach Brew House with a walk around town or on the beach. Scott is the driver with Jane as the van navigator. History will be shared by Georgia Bailey. Any hosts that do not go that day will be called as we head home with an estimated arrival time. (Van \$10.00 for our members and lunch at our own expense.) Dinner with hosts.

Saturday Oct. 12th Hosts will pack a lunch for their guests unless a member volunteers to provide 5 sack lunches. (Let me know if you would like to do that so I can let the hosts know.) We will meet at the Japanese Garden parking lot (611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland, OR 97201) and start up the walkway at 10:45 AM. The tour will begin at 11:00 AM. Billie Greene and Mary Dickson are leading this event. If you are a member of the Japanese Garden, please bring your card so you can take some of our FFCC members in free. Otherwise the fee is \$16.25. It will be beautiful in October. We will eat our lunches in the Elephant House area. Please bring your full water bottles. Small group dinners will take place this evening. Marty Muncie is organizing these.

Sunday Oct. 13th will be a free day. Hosts may want to get together for an activity or club members may want to organize a potluck. Let me know if you are up for this, where and when. It is fun to get together.

Monday Oct. 14th Mary Lu Wilson has arranged a tour of the Pendleton Woolen Mill, 2 Pendleton Way, Washougal, WA at 10:00 AM, so we will want to be there by 9:30 AM. The free tour takes an hour and is fascinating. Lunch will be on our own for members at Nuestra Mesa Restaurant, 228 NE 4th Ave., Camas, WA. The authentic Mexican food is delicious. At 1:00 PM we will take a \$5.00 tour of The Academy (400 E Evergreen Blvd Ste 105, Vancouver, WA 98660) for an hour. At 2:15 Pat Stryker will lead a walking tour of Ft Vancouver's Officer's row starting at General Oliver Otis Howard House (750 Anderson St, Vancouver, WA 98661). At 3:00 PM we can head to hosts' homes or Georgie's REC room, pool, and sauna. We will have the Farewell dinner at 4:30 PM in the REC room (5535 E Evergreen, Vancouver, WA 98661). Volunteers are needed for set up and clean up. Let me know if you can help. Members will provide the desserts so let me know if you can bring one. Dinner will cost \$10.00. It will be pulled pork and chicken, cole slaw, and loaded baked potato skins.

Tuesday Oct 15th Our ambassadors leave.



FFCC Members join as many Oklahoma City Journey activities as you can!

Oct. 8th **Welcome Salmon dinner**, Donna Egan’s home, 4:30 PM \$12.00 x _____ people \$ _____
(12321 SE Evergreen HWY, Vancouver, WA 98683)

Oct. 9th **Bob’s Red Mill tour** is free, 9:45 AM
(13521 SE Pheasant Court, Milwaukie, OR 97222)

End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center you pay there, \$9.00 at 1:00 PM
(1726 Washington St, Oregon City, OR 97045)

McLaughlin House is free ... after the End of the Trail Interpretive Center.
(713 Center St., Oregon City, OR 97045)

The Highland Still House on our own for dinner/beverages.
(201 S 2nd St, Oregon City, OR 97045)

Oct. 10th **Gorge van ride** from Georgie’s or Troutdale \$10.00 x _____ people \$ _____
(5535 E Evergreen, Vancouver, WA 98661)

Timberline Lodge tour and lunch \$25.00 x _____ people \$ _____

Oct. 11th **Coast van ride** from Georgie’s or Home Depot \$10.00 x _____ people \$ _____
(5535 E Evergreen, Vancouver, WA 98661)

Cannon Beach lunch at own expense

Oct. 12th **Japanese Garden**, free if garden members get us in. Otherwise, \$16.25 paid at the gate.
(611 SW Kingston Ave, Portland, OR 97201) 10:45 AM

Bring your lunch and water bottle.

Small group dinners.



Oct. 13th **Free day**

Oct. 14th **Pendleton Woolen Mill Tour** is free, 9:30 AM
(2 Pendleton Way, Washougal, WA 98871)

Lunch at Nuestra Mesa at your own expense.
(228 NE 4th Ave, Camas, WA 98607)

Providence Academy Tour \$ 5.00 x _____ people \$ _____
(400 E Evergreen Blvd Ste 105, Vancouver, WA 98660)

Farewell Dinner Pork and chicken 4:30 PM \$10.00 x _____ people \$ _____
(REC Room, 5535 E Evergreen, Vancouver, WA 98661)

Sign up for activities and fees:

*1. Please let Georgie know what activities you have signed up. mrs.buckler@outlook.com
303-503-6670*

*2. Make check to FFCC and send to Laural Engeman with activities you are participating in.
Laural Engeman, 2185 NW 124th, Portland, OR 97229*

Future Outgoing Journey



A few spaces left for Wichita, Kansas & The Villages, Florida Outgoing Journey, Oct 29-Nov 12, 2019

by Mary Dickson, Journey Coordinator



There are still a few spaces left if you would like to join FFCC members and additional travelers from Colorado, California, and Connecticut going to Wichita, Kansas, and The Villages in Florida from October 29 to November 12. Contact Mary Dickson soon!

WICHITA, KANSAS Oct 29 - Nov 5, 2019

Explore the Flint Hills and the Tall Grass Prairie National Preserve. Study the history of Wichita's Cowtown. Blast off into outer space with the Kansas Cosmosphere and drop 650 feet below the earth's surface into Strataca, a salt museum. Art works, prairie architecture by Frank Lloyd Wright and natural gardens. Lions and tigers and Indians, oh my! Enjoy the hospitality of the Friendship Force of Kansas as you sample the best of South-Central Kansas. We look forward to seeing you!

THE VILLAGES, FLORIDA Nov 5 - 12, 2019

The Villages, near Orlando, Florida, will offer a totally different experience. It is a retirement area with 157,000 residents (with 34 golf courses), and most people drive around in golf carts rather than cars. It is a cultural phenomenon probably unlike any in the world! A bonus is that Florida in November will likely be less rainy than Portland/Vancouver!

Download an Ambassador application: <https://www.thefriendshipforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Ambassador-Application-and-Agreement-1.pdf>

If you need help filling out an online form, read this: <https://www.thefriendshipforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/How-to-Complete-a-Fillable-PDF-Form.pdf>

If you have dietary restrictions that your host needs to know, please review this new FFI document: <https://www.thefriendshipforce.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/DietaryGuidelines.pdf>

Many clubs require that you carry trip insurance. Before buying any, check your credit card benefits, as some cards, like the Chase Sapphire Reserve, offer excellent insurance at no extra cost. If you need to buy it, go to this link:

<https://www.friendshipforce.org/trip-insurance/>

The Next Steps:

1. Make the commitment to go on this Journey.
Complete the Ambassador application and mail or email it to Mary Dickson, MBDinOR@gmail.com or 15707 NE Tillamook St., Portland, OR 97230.
2. Send a check made out to FFCC for \$100 to our Journey Treasurer, Loral Engeman, 2185 NW 124th Ave., Portland, OR 97229. This deposit will be applied to your journey costs. Balance will be paid closer to the time of the event.
3. Within 15 days of making your deposit, if you want the FFI travel insurance, go to the website listed above and purchase your insurance. Doing so within that time frame covers you for any pre-existing conditions. Insurance covers fixed costs like FFI fees, Journey fees, and airline tickets.
4. Begin researching flights and their costs. Include those costs when you purchase your insurance.

We still have spaces available, so if you are interested, please contact the Journey Coordinator, Mary Dickson.

Articles of Interest



Gaggle Communication by Bill Gregory

Our club has members with centuries worth of knowledge and experience. On top of that we're willing to share and help each other! But how can we draw upon this wealth of resources? One way is to join our new email discussion group. Here are some questions and answers about the discussion group:

Why not just ask Georgie and Dick to send email to the group?

All formal communications that must go to all members should still go through Georgie and Dick. However, if you want to start an informal discussion then our email discussion group might be useful.

What kinds of topics might one discuss?

Here are some examples:

- I'd like to go to the annual picnic, but my car is in the shop. Could someone give me a ride?
- My guest from Costa Rica doesn't speak English. Anyone out there willing to teach me a few Spanish phrases and pronunciation?
- I'm having a hard time trying to get a cheap flight to the Florida journey. Any suggestions?
- Would anyone like to carpool to the airport for our Wichita journey? We could split the airport parking fee.
- I'm going on an hour walk around Tryon Park Saturday morning at 10. If you'd like to join me, let's meet at the nature house.

What tool do we use for this discussion group?

Email: use whatever email system you are accustomed to: Google, Yahoo, Outlook, whatever.

Do I need training?

No: if you can send and receive email, you can do it.

How does this work?

1. Set up a new mail contact with this email address: fcc@gaggle.email
2. Send an email to the new contact.
3. A company called Gaggle receives your email and sends it to all of our club members who have chosen to participate in the email group. (Participation is optional.)
4. When you get an email from the group the subject of the message will always begin with "[Friendship Force Columbia Cascade]" so you'll know the message is coming from someone in our club.
5. If you want to reply to a message, just do it the same way you reply to any other email. There is no need to hit Reply **All** since Gaggle will distribute the message to everyone by default.

I'm interested in joining the email discussion group. What do I do?

Just send an email to Bill Gregory: bill.oregon@gmail.com requesting an invitation to join. After that you'll receive an email from "Friendship Force Columbia Cascade – Administrator" welcoming you to the email group. Enjoy!



Foster children benefit from the generosity of FFCC members & neighbors

by Mary Dickson

Foster children in the US often move from one foster home to another with all their worldly possessions carried in a black plastic garbage bag! What message do you think that implants in their impressionable young minds? FFCC members are collecting clean and usable suitcases, duffel bags, and backpacks to donate to the Department of Human Services for use by local foster kids.



I explained the program to my Austrian Ambassadors, Franz and Renate Langsam, and they pledged to go back to Austria and find out how foster children there transport their goods. If they face a similar situation, Franz and Renate will propose that their club collect bags to donate. On the last day of their visit here, we delivered 25 more bags. Hopefully, our Ambassadors can start similar programs!

This is so easy to do! I go to garage sales in my neighborhood, scout out bags, and ask the sellers to donate them if they don't sell by the end of the sale. I have never been turned down, and have collected over 50 bags this way. I even have people dropping them on my doorstep! So far, FFCC has donated 104 bags to Oregon Department of Human Services. I hope that others will follow this example. It's a great way to spread the word about FFCC



and do something useful with the bags that we no longer need in our travels! I'd like to see our Vancouver members become active with this project, and we will donate them in Vancouver. If we can donate in Portland and Vancouver, and have our Ambassadors spread the word in their clubs, perhaps this can become a world-wide FFI project. Wouldn't it be great if foster kids could have something nice to own and use?



15 Photos A Travel Writer Will Never Sell

by Mary Charlebois in Fort Bragg, CA



Not every photo you snap has to be a winner. Some images aren't meant to be sold at all. Instead, their job is saving time and money.

Travel writers are information collectors. We illuminate our stories with photos we take of attractions, accommodations, food, and drink. But we also need to collect brochures, guides, maps, books, and business cards. Plus, reservations, confirmations, boarding passes, addresses, phone numbers, departure gates, and so much more.

For these things, I use my smart phone or camera to reduce paper while still keeping essential information at my fingertips.

The following are 15 kinds of photos I snap to save time and money...

1 ID and documents

You know this one. Photograph the front and back of your passport, driver's license, journalist ID, credit cards, tickets, itineraries, and vouchers before leaving home. Leave a copy at home with your itinerary, place one in your suitcase (I put mine under the lining), and some folks suggest putting the third copy in a secure location as you travel—money belt, safe, etc.

2 Luggage and its contents

Photograph the contents of your bags as you are packing. Pack everything and photograph all your bags—suitcases, totes, handbags, and wallets. Leave a digital copy at home and place one on your phone and/or laptop. If your luggage is lost or stolen, you'll have an easier time with insurance claims by including photos.

3 Departure board that shows your gate

Keep it handy for reference when finding your gate.

4 Rental car condition at pickup and return

Photograph all sides clearly. Get the rental car agent in the picture if possible. This can be your savior if damage claims are made for pre-existing flaws.

5 Hotel from the street

This shot can be handy if you don't speak the same language as your cab driver, or in case you forget the name or location.

6 Hotel room number

In case you don't want to say it out loud or forget the number.

7 Your car parked in the parking lot

Be sure the specific row or level shows in the photo. If that's not possible, photograph the

location sign separately. Nothing worse than roaming up and down row after row of cars looking for yours.

8 Parking lot name/address sign

In case you forget, this is a life saver. I've used the Google feature, "Place on Map" with parking lot photos when I was lost to get step-by-step walking or driving directions.

9 Taxi driver ID

Most likely you won't need this one, but I do wish I had done it for the taxi where I left my London Fog raincoat.

10 All Receipts

11 Brochures

It's easier to carry a digital image than all the paper that accumulates while traveling.

12 Business cards

13 Menus

So you can refer back to the names of dishes and their prices in your articles. It's lighter to carry a digital image than carry a menu from eateries, not to mention they might not give you one. Be discreet. I ask first and like to do it outside the dining area.

14 Signs

Business names and addresses, informational, directional, etc.

15 Museum information panels

Most of these photos can be deleted after your trip is complete or you've finished your story. But in the interim, they're priceless.

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD**

PLEDGE

As a member of The Friendship Force, I recognize that I can make a difference. I recognize that I have a mission. That mission is to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching me. I know that through my example to my own fellow citizens and the people of other nations, the cause of friendship, love and peace will be furthered.

A World of Friends is a World of Peace!

Each Friendship Force experience begins with the desire to explore. We explore new countries and regions. We explore new cultures and new ways to connect across the barriers that separate us. Friendship Force introduces people at the personal level. By sharing a home, meals and conversation, people connect. Through home hospitality we become friends, seeing beyond governments and borders into the heart of a country and its people.

Membership Application

Annual dues cover the cost of the newsletter and expenses for exchanges and activities of the Friendship Force of Columbia Cascade, as well as membership in Friendship Force International.

Membership/person \$35

Dual Membership \$15
(more than one chapter)

New Member? YES NO

If new member, we need name(s) for name tag:

How did you hear about Friendship Force?

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

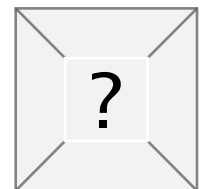
Email Address _____

Questions:
Call Sharon Dawson
503-327-4152

Please circle Interest:

- Hosting incoming ambassadors
- Day Hosting
- Activities, Planning Committee
- Attending local activities
- Speakers' bureau
- Outgoing exchanges

Send with payment to: (make checks payable to FFCC):



Sharon Dawson, FF

