



Irish Eyes

When Irish eyes are smiling,
 Tis like a morn in spring.
 With a lilt of Irish laughter
 You can hear the angels sing
 When Irish hearts are happy
 All the world is bright and gay
 When Irish eyes are smiling
 Sure, they steal your heart away.

Chaucey Olcott and George Graff, Jr.

General Meeting

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Social: 5:45 PM

Bring a friend, something to share with others & greet old friends

Program: 6:30 PM

North to Alaska

Ginny Coombs

Ginny, a member of our club, will present photographs of her many trips to Alaska.

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L.E.E.

A new program for our members

Friends, we had such a great time dining at the "Cedars of Lebanon" last month, and being entertained by a talented and friendly Belly dancer (See photo on page 4). She even educated us and taught us about her craft.

What about 'Eating Ethnic' on a regular basis? Salt Lake is noted for its many great ethnic restaurants. Why don't we schedule dinners like that every other month? If you have suggestions get them to Carol who is ready and willing to scout out the places and make the reservations.

“ Lets Eat Ethnic!”

FF—Utah - President's Message



If you think there is a lot going on “chez moi” I would say, “Exactement!”

I just got word that on June 9th, that the Brisbane, Australia club is passing through SLC on their train trip from Grand Junction to Reno on a Friendship Force Journey. They hope to spend time with us. I responded that we could take on one day and evening entertaining them, while they stay in a hotel.

The World Conference in our Rocky Mountain Region...that is BIG. They are asking us to search for free stuff from Utah to put in the hundreds of bags that are going to be given out at the conference. Pens? Pins? Postcards, You know what is in welcome bags... Even small numbers of things will be useful.. July 23-25th is coming

up. Ask around and see what you can find.

Well, just as I got a handle on matching up the Utah Parks Journey hosting with the ambassadors, and got drivers lined up for the trip, and received the applications for the outgoing Australia and New Zealand journey, I got word on where we will get to go in 2020! *How can retirement be anything but exciting?*

So, if you are up for it, and they can get their visas, we will be hosting members of the Kenya club in March 2020. In October we will be going back to see them in Kenya and on to Tanzania, Africa. *Start collecting your miles on Delta!*

Remember the trip to Hamilton, Ontario? Now they want to visit us! They are combining the Utah journey with the Central Arizona Club, so I envision a meeting place near one of the National Parks that we are soon to be experts in! That is scheduled for November 2020.

What can you do to help? You can volunteer to drive an SUV to the Utah Parks; You can be a day host for Sunday the 28th of April and take the guests to ‘This is the Place’ Heritage Park; you can volunteer to be the journey coordinator for one of the journeys in 2020; you can serve on the board. You can do airport pickups. If I get a request from a journey coordinator saying, “Is she an active member who does her share in your club?”, *will you qualify?* The gift of travel, which Friendship Force offers us, requires that you give of yourself as others give to you when you stay in their homes and cities. *Thank you to all the members who are scheduled to home host and/or drive the ambassadors this spring!*

Jennifer

Member of the Month: Lynn Muller

Lynn has jumped right on to the band wagon with Friendship Force. She went on her first journeys with the club to California and Germany. She volunteered to be the Membership Chairwoman; she is going with us to Australia and New Zealand, and she is putting up a Facebook page for our club! There is nothing like enthusiasm, and Lynn has got it.

But get this...she is giving up her bedroom to host an ambassador for the Utah Parks Journey! *Would you sleep on the couch to contribute? GO LYNN!*

About our Club

Club meetings are held the third Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November. Location may vary depending on the month. March meeting will be held at 2001 South State Street, SLC. Use the East entrance at the north end of South Building where free parking is available. If the door is locked, go to the North building, sign in and get directions to the Atrium.

**Salt Lake Co Government Complex
2100 S & State St, South Bldg.**

Social 5:45 PM

Meeting 6:30 PM

2018 Officers & Board Members

To contact officer below, send e-mail to

UtahFriendshipForce@gmail.com

Put name of officer you want to contact in the subject line

President — Jennifer Allred

Secretary — *Christine Allred*

Treasurer — *Don Niederhauser*

Social Chair — *Shirley Scholz*

Membership Co-Chairs

Lynn Muller & Margret Boes-Ingraham

Member-at-Large—*Orion Sherwood*

Alternate Social Events — *Carol Milliken*

Past President — Judy Cohen

Newsletter Editor—Dana Hughes



2019 Calendar of Events

General Meeting: March 19th

General Meeting: May 21st

Picnic: July 16th

Washington Park

Utah National Parks Journey April 28—May 10

Welcome Dinner: April 28th—5:30 PM

Tres Hombres Cantina 3298 Highland Drive

Farewell Dinner: May 9th—5:30

Dim Sum House, 1158 South State Street

Please come to these events.

International Events

FF International Conference—July 23-27

Boulder, Colorado

Outgoing Journey: Australia/New Zealand

Tamworth, Australia: October 31 — November 7

Thames, New Zealand: November 8—15

Thanks Xmission for another year

Internet services donated by  XMISSION

FF of Utah has a Facebook Page!

We have a new Facebook page! If you are on Facebook, please like and share the page. If you have pictures from a recent event, such as the belly dancing, post them. Then all of your friends will see it and learn about our organization. This is another way to grow our club. Also if anyone is willing to help administer the page, please contact Lynn. (She could use some techy help).

We have collected all 2019 dues. Thanks all for being so prompt. We now have 54 members, including 1 new member, Becky.

So let's work on increasing our membership! Do you belong to an organization, social club, senior center? Would they be open to a presentation about our organization? We have 2 videos that can be shown to help explain our purpose and mission and members willing to share stories of their journeys. Contact Lynn or Margret with suggestions.

Remember to wear your name tag to the March meeting. Stop at the Membership table to enter the door prize drawing and to receive your eating/seating assignment. Again we want to mingle and engage with new and old friends.

Lynn & Margret

FRAUD ALERT

Folks, we have determined that someone has learned about our relationships as board members of Utah Friendship Force.

Board members have been receiving emails purported to be from Jennifer, asking for favors that involve buying Amazon Cards for a charity.

This is a ruse to get us to follow instructions that would result in the fraudster getting Amazon gift cards and us spending our money to purchase them.

After investigating and reporting the email address from which the requests were sent, we determined that the Board positions and emails, listed on our own website, gave the fraudster the information he needed: Just send requests from the president to her board members and they will respond.

As a result, we have decided to remove email addresses from our website and our newsletter.

You may use your directory to find out our information. And if you get an odd request from Jennifer please look closely at the address and **Don't Respond!** If you don't think Jennifer would ask you to buy something, you are right!

Jennifer

An Evening at "Cedars of Lebanon."

We had a great time and we ate delicious Middle Eastern food and enjoyed a brightly costumed belly dancer.

Twenty four people from Friendship Force and Servas were delighted to attend this Ethnic Experience.

Cedars of Lebanon arranged for the dancer and gave us a special price for the menu. The experience took place on a Tuesday evening the 19th of February. It was a different kind of evening and many comments said we should do it more. Thank you to all who attended and if you tipped the Bellydancer thank you again.

Carol



"Cedars of Lebanon"

“Calling all Aussies and Kiwis!”

Listen Up Everybody. The Ship has left the Harbor....Twelve members have submitted their applications for the Journey to Tamworth, Australia and Thames on Coromandel in New Zealand next October.

We will all meet for a few days in Sydney, then take a train ride to Tamworth, New South Wales, where we will stay in one or two small towns for a week. Then we will fly back for last minute excursions in Sydney before flying together to Auckland New Zealand. There we will be met by private vans for the two hour ride to Thames. We will arrive just in time to view their annual Steam Punk Parade and music celebration which looks very unique! We will be on a peninsula known for its beaches in the North east part of the North Island. It will be Spring there. The Kauaeranga Valley and Gorge are very close. Known as the “Gateway to Outdoor Adventure” we will learn about the Maori people and the Gold Miners who settled there. The official dates are October 31st until November 15th, but most of us are going a bit earlier and staying a bit later on our own. Some are just going to Australia and some just to New Zealand. Several of us will then visit the South Island on our own.

GET ONBOARD...THERE’S STILL ROOM!

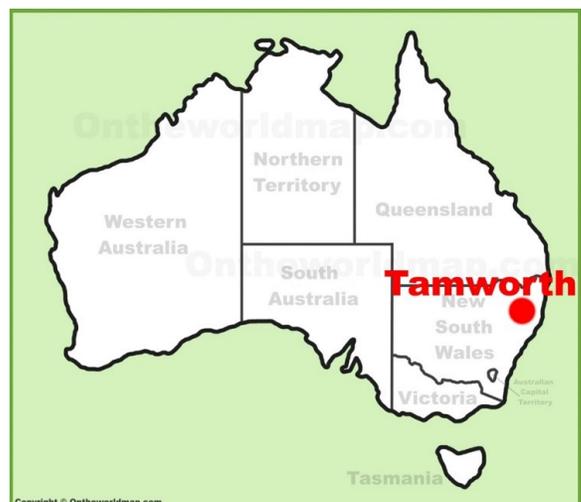
Jennifer

Facts about Tamworth, Australia

Tamworth is a city and the major regional centre in the New England region of northern New South Wales, Australia. Situated on the Peel River within the local government area of Tamworth Regional Council, about 318 km from the Queensland border, it is located almost midway between Brisbane and Sydney. According to Tamworth Regional Council, the city had a population 61,571 in June, 2017. The Kamilaroi people are the traditional custodians of Tamworth.

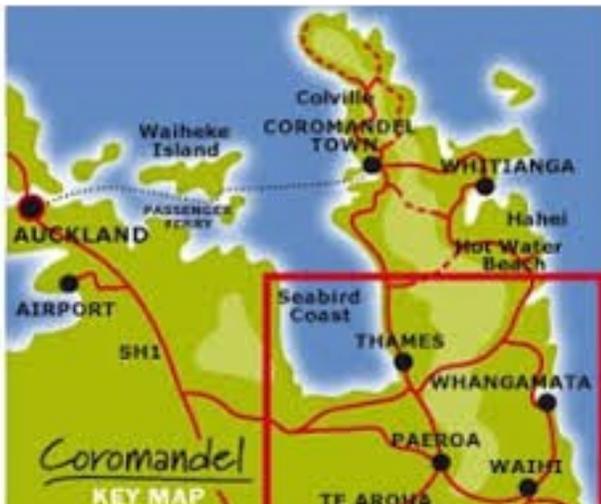
The city is known as the "First Town of Lights", being the first place in Australia to use electric street lights in 1888.^[2] Tamworth is also famous as the "Country Music Capital of Australia", annually hosting the Tamworth Country Music Festival; the second-biggest country music festival in the world. The city is recognised as the National Equine Capital of Australia^[3] because of the high number of equine events held in the city and the construction of the world-class Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre, the biggest of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere. Tamworth is primarily a service centre for the New England and North West regions, providing services to a population of some 200,000 plus people from the Tamworth region and satellite areas. The retail industry is the biggest employer, followed by manufacturing and health services.

From: [Wikipedia.org/Tamworth_New_South_Wales](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tamworth,_New_South_Wales)

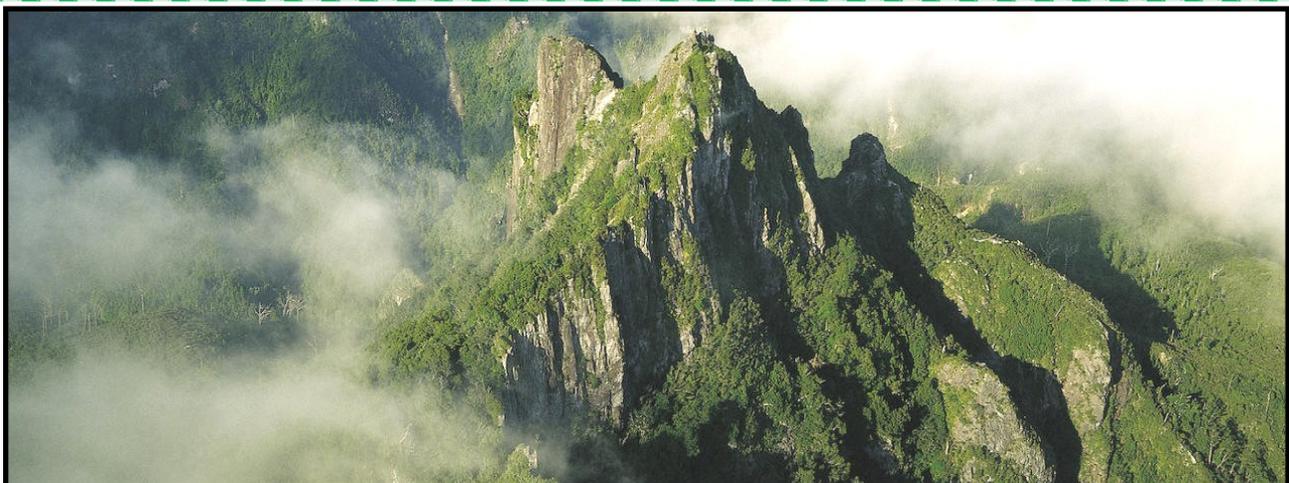


Five Facts about Thames, New Zealand

1. Thames is a historical New Zealand town situated between the calm waters of the Firth of Thames and the majestic ranges of the Coromandel Peninsula. See photo below.
2. It is the largest town and the gateway to the Coromandel Peninsula; it is 115 km south east of Auckland. Towns in the Coromandel are a binocular's view across the gulf from Auckland
3. Thames has existed since 1868 when 3 adjacent small towns (Shortland, Tookeys Flat and Grahamstown) related to the discovery of gold were combined.
4. Today, Thames has a wealth of historical buildings from the gold-mining days including the Thames School of Mines and Mineral Museum.
5. An annual Steampunk festival is held in November. It's purpose is to celebrate Thames' own blend of art, heritage and culture; inspire and stimulate local talent, showcase local art and creativity and attract visitors to town to join us in have a rollicking good time.



The Coromandel is known for its pristine beaches, misty forest and laid-back vibe. Coromandelfun.co.nz



Kauaeranga Valley once filled with magnificent Kauri trees was logged extensively before the 1930s .

ITINERARY: Utah National Parks Journey April 28-May 10, 2019

(Sunday, April 28th Arrival)

Arrive in Salt Lake City: Home hosted with optional Tabernacle Choir performance or "This is the Place State Park" visit.

5:30 PM. **Welcome dinner at *Tres Hombres Cantina 3298 Highland Drive.***

Monday, April 29th Drive to Moab)

9:00AM Meet your driver and drive to Moab

3:00PM Orientation meeting at the "Moab Garage" on Main Street. Buy groceries at City Market for 4 breakfasts and lunches. Check in to Moab Rustic Inn at 120 East First South.

7PM Dinner at Zax on the corner of Main and First.

(Tuesday April 30th) Arches National Park

You make breakfast in kitchenette; eggs available in Room 111; 7:15 AM Bring self-made packed lunches for departure to Arches National Park (3 or 4 short hikes). Picnic in the park.

3PM Drive along the Colorado River (State Road 128) and over the La Sal Mtn Loop to Pack Creek Ranch for dinner.

(May 1st Canyonlands National Park)

Same as Day 3; Depart early for Canyonlands

5PM Night time Dinner Cruise on the Colorado River AT *CANYONLANDS BY NIGHT*, 1861 North Highway 191.

(May 2nd Free day with optional jeep tours)

Breakfast on your own. Other options include viewing dinosaur tracks, rafting, a winery, film museum or shopping.

Dinner on your own

May 3rd) Depart for Capitol Reef National Park

Pack your lunch. Leisurely breakfast **on your own** before departure to Sege Canyon Petroglyphs and Pictographs, located about one hour north, on the way to Capitol Reef National Park. Stop at the Park Visitor's Center that afternoon. Check in to Broken Spur Inn (955 East State Road 24) in Torrey.

(May 4th) Visit Capitol Reef National Park

Take a walk past Native American pictographs, see Pioneer orchard and school house, or take a hike to Hickman Bridge.

(May 5th) Scenic Drive on Highway 12

Pick up a picnic sandwich, and head down one of America's Most Scenic Highways, Highway 12. Picnic at Petrified Forest State Park or Anazazi State Park. Arrive at Bryce Canyon Pines, five miles past entrance to the park, for two nights. _

(May 6th) Bryce Canyon National Park)

Take the park shuttle around the park with stops at trailheads and viewpoints. Hiking is your choice. Save time for shopping at Ruby's Inn at the park entrance. **Dinner on your own.**

ITINERARY: Utah National Parks Journey April 28-May 10, 2019 A (Continued)

(May 7th)

There is a pool at the Inn; Relax for a late departure or rise early for a hike. Horseback riding available to Red Canyon. Drive through Zion National Park in the afternoon. Check into Bumbleberry Inn, 97 Bumbleberry Lane in Springdale past the West Entrance, with Dinner on your own.

(May 8th) Zion National Park)

Take the town shuttle in front of the motel and get on the Park Shuttle early if you are smart. Go with your driver or bring your own Senior Parks Pass to board the park shuttle. Breakfast is included but the early bird misses the crowds at Zion. Optional hikes include Emerald Pool Trailhead or a leisurely walk at the end of the canyon. You have the whole day to enjoy the park on your own. A late breakfast would work! Last chance to shop for souvenirs! Dinner on your own.

May 9th) Departure for Salt Lake City

This morning, we will head for the North Entrance of the Zion Park at Kolob Canyon, about a one hour drive from Springdale for a short stop, and final photos of the spectacular red and yellow cliffs of Southern Utah. Return to hosts in Salt Lake City for last overnight. Farewell Dinner: It is at Dim Sum House, 1158 South State Street in SLC at 5:-5:30 PM. Your hosts will meet you there for your last overnight.

(May 10th) Departure Day

Home hosts will escort you to the airport for your flight home

Thank You Thank You Thank You

In 2016, our club was asked to create a global journey. We committed to do it and now it is here!

Thanks to all our members who have agreed to help with the Utah National Parks Journey. Several of you served on the planning committee; many are going with the group to southern Utah, and many are home hosting. Thanks to Jennifer Allred for all the time and energy that she has put into making this a successful journey.

