



Our President's Report By David Motherwell

On September 22, Jerry Johnson, Mary Johnson, and I discussed our favorite books.

Jerry said his favorite is “Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln” by Doris Kearns Goodwin. This book is a biographical portrait of President Lincoln and some of the men who served with him in his cabinet from 1861 to 1865. Instead of taking the usual way of selecting close friends and partners who would blindly back him in his choices, Lincoln picked a team of clever and determined people who could state their various views on problems to assist him to make the best decisions. Few of Lincoln’s aphorisms have been quoted more than his appeal to “the better angels of our nature” in his 1861 inaugural address. He took the phrase from another politician, William Seward. The former New York governor and U.S. senator was far better known than Lincoln and had been his chief rival for the Republican nomination in 1860. Pulitzer Prize-winning Civil War historian James M. McPherson called this book “an elegant, incisive study of Lincoln and stated that Goodwin addressed Lincoln's gift for coalition-building better than any other writer.”

Mary enjoys reading mystery and crime novels, particularly those by Louise Penny, a Canadian author. Penny’s books are set in a fictional town of Three Pines, which is full of interesting characters.

My favorite author is John Steinbeck, whose narrative style depicted sensitive feelings toward nature and the dispossessed. His best books champion ordinary men and women, who struggle, sometimes unsuccessfully, to forge lives genuine meaning and worth. Steinbeck believed that the free, exploring mind of the individual human is the most valuable asset in the world. The places and people we have met during our personal journey through life have left various impressions.

This year we lost **Charlotte Balettie** and **Art Mennell**. Both were loyal, long-term members known for their generosity. We have continued with our mission of spreading goodwill through our social activities and journeys.

Doris Yohe has done an excellent job as Social Chair. The remaining board members have volunteered to serve one more year in their current position.

Schedule for next book discussion:

The next **book discussion** will be at **1 PM on Tuesday, January 19** at Dierberg’s east of West County Mall. We will discuss “**Theo of Golden**” by **Allen Levi**. This novel follows the enigmatic yet kindly actions of Theo, an elderly Portuguese man who arrives in the southern town of Golden and discovers 92 pencil portraits displayed at a local coffee shop. He embarks on a mission to purchase these portraits and give them to their subjects, whom he considers to be the rightful owners. His “bestowals” create profound connections across the community before his true identity is revealed. The novel explores themes of 1) cultivating connection through art and kindness 2) the transformative power of being truly seen and 3) finding redemptive value in sadness and joy.

Annual Meeting :

The **annual meeting** for the election of new officers will be at **4 PM on Thursday, November 19** at the **Clark Library on Lindbergh**. Please plan to attend, as we will need a quorum of members. Refreshments will be served. It will be an ideal time for us to reconnect and share what's happening in our life.

Celebrating October Birthday:

10/11	Judy	Cagle
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From Doris Yohe, Social Committee VP

On October 19th Patti Bubasch, Paul Ostendorph, and Doris Yohe had lunch at the Blue Owl in Kimswick then went to the nearby Anheiser Estate and Museum. Unfortunately, the house was locked and we were unable to tour even though the website said it would be open on Saturday.



LEO FOR OCTOBER:

We will visit the **Wild Bird Sanctuary**, 125 Bald Eagle Ridge, Valley Park, Mo 63088 on **Saturday, October 24th at 11:00 am** for a guided tour. After our tour, we will have **lunch** at **Helen Fitzgerald's Irish Grill and Pub**, 3650 S .Lindbergh Blvd, in Sunset Hills, just south of Watson Road and South Lindbergh.

If you would like to go, please **text or email Doris Yohe, 314-805-8932 or dorisyoye@gmail.com**.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON:

Save the **DATE** for our **Holiday Luncheon at Bartolino's South**, 3650 S. Lindbergh Blvd, at **12:00 noon on Saturday, December 12th**, where we will have a private room and will order our lunch selection from the menu.

From Judy Young, Movie Group

The Movie group will meet at Susy's on **Wednesday, October 14th at 4:30 am**. The movie is **"Verity"**. "Adapted from Colleen Hoover's best-selling novel, it follows a struggling writer who is hired by a husband to complete the remaining books in his wife's successful series after a mysterious accident has left her unable to finish."

Since it is difficult to predict how long a movie will be available in our theaters, it is best to try to see it sooner than later.

As always, after you have seen the movie, bring a dish to share another lively discussion. Please call/text **Judy Young at her cell at 636-634-1458** if you plan to attend.

From Judy Cagle, VP of Membership

A membership committee has been formed to explore ways to recruit new members and has met via Zoom to share ideas.

The Atlanta team is developing a pilot program and has provided a toolkit that includes a phone script, newsletter, sign-up sheets, and other resources. A brochure package is also in development.

We encourage all members to actively promote our club. To join the committee or just share questions or ideas, please contact Judy Cagle at 314-304-5644.

About Friendship Force International

Instructions on how to receive this and future messages from Friendship Force International (World Headquarters)

Now that you have set up an ID and Password when you renewed online and become familiar with the My Friendship Force Platform (<https://my.friendshipforce.org>), you can explore the site.

*To ensure that you receive all the correspondence, you will need to make sure that you have the correct Communication Preference on in your **profile**:*

- GO to [My.friendshipforce.org](https://my.friendshipforce.org)
- Logon with email and password
- Upper Right click on picture and choose **My Profile**
- Edit Communication Preference
- Verify that Newsletter is toggled On

*If you have been receiving correspondence with the incorrect eastern time instead of the **correct central time**, you can also resolve the issue by going to your **profile**:*

- GO to [My.friendshipforce.org](https://my.friendshipforce.org)
- Logon with email and password
- Upper Right click on picture and choose My Profile
- Edit my Profile
- Go down to and Chose Time Zone
- Select (GMT-05:00) Central Daylight Time (America/Chicago)
- UPDATE

Access to the website provides club members valuable information about the Friendship Force including:

1. *A safe and secure place to learn more about Friendship Force International;*
2. *A listing and information about other clubs;*
3. *All upcoming journeys;*
4. *Virtual programs and*
5. *A place to engage with the global Friendship Force network beyond your local club.*