



friendship force  
NORTHERN COLORADO



Sue Cummins—Editor

December  
2013

## Fort Collins, Greeley, Loveland, Windsor, Estes Park and Surrounding Areas

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Outbound Exchange: Kiel and a Cruise	2
Multiple Wayne Smith Awards in Our Club!	3
Paulette reports on Cuba trip	4
Outbound Exchange to St. Louis Membership	5
New Orleans World Conference	6
World Conference	7
Exchange Calendar Officers & Chairs	8

### FROM OUR PRESIDENT



If you missed the November FFNC meeting, you missed a very interesting and educational program by Paulette Weaver with a first-hand look at a section of present-day Cuba. The slides she shared were a beautiful pictorial representation of everyday people striving to build sustainability in their food production and yearning for a more hopeful future.

Great job Paulette! Thank you to everyone who contributed the wonderful variety of tasty goodies for the November meeting, too.

During that meeting, it was a great honor to present three Wayne Smith Medals to FFNC members who have demonstrated their outstanding commitment to the ideals of Friendship Force International and to the strengthening and energizing of FFNC through their countless hours of volunteering, committee work, and leadership. With great pleasure, we honored and recognized **Cinda & Larry Clark; Ed & Nancy Brigden, and Cindy Paulson**. We sincerely thank them for their ongoing support of our club and the goals of FFI. Many thanks to our Wayne Smith Medal awardees, and to all club members who contribute to our success in so many ways!

Our annual holiday gathering will take place on Friday, December 13, 2013 at Dorothy's Catering on West 1<sup>st</sup> Street in Loveland from 5:30-8:30 p.m. If you did not already sign up, **send your \$18 check (made out to FFNC), to Alice Gibson 1012 Akin Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80525**. The cost includes a delicious meal of carved roast beef OR rosemary mushroom chicken, salad bar, baby roasted potatoes, steamed vegetables, bread and dessert, plus one glass of wine or beer (if you wish) and unlimited coffee, soda or tea. A cash bar will be available. When you send your check, let Alice know your meal preference. **Anyone who intends to participate must get your check to Alice by December 6.** Note that after December 9, there will be no refunds, as Dorothy will have ordered food for a specific number of guests. Put on your holiday clothes and reconnect with long-time friends and get acquainted with newer members. See you there!

**Marcia Ross**

*Next Meeting/  
Holiday Dinner  
7:00 p.m.  
Friday, December 13*



*Dorothy's Catering  
2248 W. County Rd. 20  
(that's 1st Street, too)  
Loveland, CO 80537*

*If you haven't paid,  
send your checks now.*

## KIEL AND A CRUISE?

### Kiel, Germany Exchange and Fjords Cruise

There are a few openings for the May 21-June 8 FFNC planned experience in Northern Germany, Norway, and Sweden. Join FF Northern Colorado on a 7-day home-hosted exchange to FF Kiel, Germany, coupled with 3 days to explore and enjoy Hamburg, and a 7-day North Sea cruise departing from Kiel, on which we will enjoy the beautiful fjords and rich history in port cities in Norway and Sweden.

**Total experience with travel: 18 days.**

City tour of Hamburg with time to explore at your leisure.

Transfer to Kiel for 7 days of home hosting by our friends in FF Kiel, Germany, exploring this beautiful and historic port city.

Embark from Kiel on a 7-night Northern European Cruise aboard the MSC Orchestra to visit ports in Norway and Sweden. Experience the beautiful fjords and breathtaking scenery, tour the quaint villages, and enjoy the entertainment and breakfast, lunch, and dinner meals onboard.

Return to port in Kiel, then transfer back to Hamburg for one more afternoon/night at your leisure before departure to Colorado.

Approximate cost of \$4000 includes airfare, transfers, Hamburg hotels, FF Kiel homestay and FFI fees, cruise leaving from Kiel, 2 cruise excursions, round-trip DIA shuttle, all gratuities, port charges, taxes and fees.

Questions? Ready to sign up? Contact Exchange Directors:

Marcia Ross 377-0512 [mross377@msn.com](mailto:mross377@msn.com)  
or Cindy Paulson 225-2252 [cdp225@msn.com](mailto:cdp225@msn.com)



Kiel, Germany



Kristiansand, Norway



Stavanger, Norway



Goteborg, Sweden

## FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL HONORS FIVE OF OUR MEMBERS WITH WAYNE SMITH MEDALS



*Nancy & Ed Brigden*

*Cindy Paulson*

The Wayne Smith Medal, named after the founder of Friendship Force International, was created to honor those who provide “exceptional service and leadership in advancing the mission of Friendship Force International.” Wayne Smith believed that “a world of friends is a world of peace.” The medal that bears his name is the instrument through which Friendship Force clubs honor those who share that belief and who advance the organization’s values of mutual respect, cultural diversity, and humanitarian service.

The awardees pictured on this page join longtime Friendship Force of Northern Colorado members Helen and Charlie Carihfield, who were so honored last year and can be seen wearing their medal at most of our meetings (he one month, she the next), perhaps setting another precedent for our new medal recipients.

Having this many awardees in one club is  
**unprecedented!**

*Dear Marcia, FFNC Board of Directors and Members,*

*Larry and I were astounded and honored to receive the Wayne Smith Medal at the meeting on November 8th. It was never on our radar, and whoever may have known at FFI or locally, didn't spill the beans.*

*We try doing whatever we can because the organization means so much to each of us. To accomplish anything in Friendship Force, however, requires the help of others. We've picked a lot of brains, and had a lot of friends who have stood alongside us. Dozens, if not hundreds, have helped along the way to the recognition afforded us last week.*

*Through the years, we have been so pleased to host, and to represent FF when visiting other clubs. Those opportunities are the icing on the cake. Our thanks to the board, and to fellow exchange directors, for providing the opportunities for us to make friends among foreign and other U.S. cultures.*

*Making friends at home and abroad is the icing. The Wayne Smith Medal is the décoration atop the cake! Thank you for making us feel so special and honored.*

*Gratefully,  
Larry and Cinda Clark*



## **Paulette Weaver Spoke at Our November Meeting About Her Trip to Cuba in 2012**

Paulette visited Cuba (a country of about 11,000,000 people) on a trip set up by a friend of her daughter Kara. A program on Sustainable Agriculture and Urban Gardens in Cuba offered a good match for Paulette's interests, since she is a Landscape Architect. The customized trip focused on sustainable agriculture, farm cooperatives, UNESCO World Heritage sites, and environmental issues. It was organized through Global Exchange, based in San Francisco, and Eco Cuba, which has offices in both the U.S. and Cuba.



In 1953, the Cuban people, led by the Castros, began a revolution against oppression, and that led to a dependency on the Soviet Union. Almost four decades later, in 1991, the Soviet Union fell apart. Cuba was left without the resources necessary for food production, vehicle repair, energy, and more. Cuba then strengthened its friendship with Venezuela and began receiving needed resources from that country. But Cuba did not want to have another dependency, so the country focused on developing sustainable agricultural and environmental practices so they could become more self-supporting. Now the economy is slowly improving thanks to tourism from Europe, Canada, and the U.S., especially Cuban Americans.

An organization called Community Project for Conservation or Preservation of Food is growing food and teaching food preservation and good nutrition. This movement seems to be coming from the people, from the ground up, not from the government down. They receive no government funds and avoid commercialization. Their focus is education in order to introduce new ideas to the public. They work with children, health workers, and the general population. There are some recent changes in Cuba that are beginning to make a difference. Now people have the ability to buy and sell houses, and they can be allowed to have certain small businesses such as B & B's. Everyone has access to a free quality education from pre-school to college. Health care is available to all.

Paulette said they received a warm welcome with speeches from both children and adults. They shared their potluck food and enjoyed their music and dancing. She wishes the people and the country well.

*Our thanks to Paulette for her willingness to share the still rather unusual experience of visiting Cuba.*

## MAKE NEW FRIENDS IN ST. LOUIS—FALL, 2014



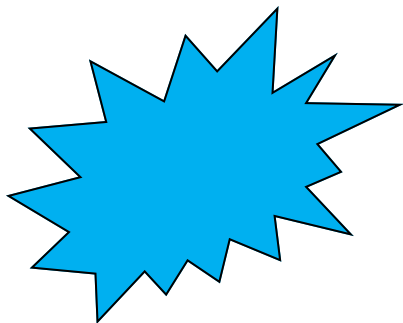
We have been invited to enjoy an outbound exchange to St Louis, Missouri, in September or October of 2014. Exact dates to be determined soon. Consider joining us for a beautiful week in the Midwest. We hope to catch the fall colors, which as you know are spectacular in that part of our beautiful country. This will be a 5-night exchange with a possible add-on trip of a few days, possibly to the Branson or Kansas City area.

If you are interested in the exchange, or if you are interested in being the Exchange Director, please contact Kay Thomas at [KThomasLvInd@comcast.net](mailto:KThomasLvInd@comcast.net) or 278 9054.

## WE ARE GROWING

### Welcome!

Thelma Slocum, our membership guru, reports that we have 94 members for 2013 and are welcoming 11 new members at this time from the Estes Park FF Club. Our projections for next year indicate that we should have more than 100 members.



Gerri Cummings - Estes Park  
Irene Little - Estes Park  
Stephen Little - Estes Park  
Leonard Martinez - Longmont  
Jo McFadden - Glen Haven  
Don Reeb - Estes Park  
Irene Reeb - Estes Park  
Duane Sharp - Longmont  
Pat Sharp - Longmont  
Clayton Volkmann-Longmont  
Lynda Volkmann - Longmont

## 2013 World Conference in New Orleans



Fifteen FFNC members took part in the sessions and festivities during the FFI World Conference in New Orleans. Participants had opportunities to learn about the complexities of making exchange matches, alternative exchanges such as Semester at Sea, nuts and bolts about recruitment, themed exchanges, Cajun cooking, dancing, and much more. We met new friends and had a wonderful time connecting with hosts and friends from former exchanges. Everyone ate (too much) wonderful seafood and gumbo, danced, sang and reveled in the merriment of the Mardi Gras-style banquet that was complete with clowns, stilt walkers, masks, and music. The final evening was completed with our Colorado group plus several hundred Friendship Force friends parading down Bourbon Street to the tune of *When the Saints Go Marching In*.



## 2013 WORLD CONFERENCE IN NEW ORLEANS



### *Jay Zoo Ba from Dot*

Jay zoo ba to my fellow Friendship Force members. This is Burmese for thank you. The two boxes of school supplies you have generously given are currently packed into one very heavy suitcase at 50.2 pounds. Jay zoo ba to Helen Carihfield, for supplying us with nice wheeled suitcases for many years.

We have 18 Pioneers who have paid going on the February/March Global Discovery trip, and four more say they will pay, with seven undecided. The mix includes Aussies, Brits, and people from the U.S. Almost all have international aid experience, which is what I've been screening for, as the need is so great. I'll look forward to sharing the trip with you in 2014. We can still take supplies as others will be going there from this area. *Dot Cada*

Inbound

Outbound

**EXCHANGE CALENDAR****2013 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS****Kiel, Germany** **May 21-June 8**Marcia Ross, 377-0512 mross377@msn.com  
or

Cindy Paulson 225-2252 cdp225@msn.com

**Curitiba, Brazil** **August/September****EXCHANGE DIRECTOR NEEDED****St. Louis, Missouri****September or October****EXCHANGE DIRECTOR NEEDED****FFI International Convention**

Auckland, New Zealand

**November**

Refer to our Web site, [ffncolo.com](http://ffncolo.com) for  
newsletter issues and information on  
Programs, Exchanges, Leadership contacts,  
Upcoming events, etc.....

**PRESIDENT: Marcia Ross**

377-0512 mross377@msn.com

**VICE PRES: Marilyn Garner**

493-4137 garner.marilyn@gmail.com

**SECRETARY: Paulette Weaver**

356-5068 interweaver@greeleynet.com

**TREASURER: Alice Gibson**

310-8848 aligibs@yahoo.com

**Programs: Esther Johnsen**

484-2666 RNEjohnsen@aol.com

**Exchange Coordinator: Kay Thomas**

278-9054 kthomaslvnd@aol.com

**Website: Ed Brigden**

381-5809 brigden@comcast.net

**Newsletter Editors/Publishers:****Ed Brigden, Cindy Paulson, Sue Cummins**

381-5809 brigden@comcast.net

225-2252 cdp225@msn.com

682-2266 sue@gscummins.com

**Publicity: Anne Brown**

663-3727 abby144@aol.com

**Member Directory: Ed Brigden**

381-5809 brigden@comcast.net

**Membership: Thelma Slocum & Cindy Paulson**

223-9855 thelmaslocum@comcast.net

225-2252 cdp225@msn.com

**Telephone Tree: Barbara Turnbull**

493-0787 b.turnbull493@gmail.com

**Music: Rosemary Donovan, Larry Clark**

669-8818 donovanged@aol.com

669-5426 clarksmail@msn.com

**Store: Debby Jones**

686-0303 dsj55@aol.com

**Historian: Ken Weaver**

356-5068 interweaver@greeleynet.com

**Greeting Table: Willie Westdorp** 667-6525

Nita Koplyay 613-2066

**Hospitality: Rona Baer** 744-9974

Mary Riney

**Tablecloth Mgr: Kay Sheahan** 667-4473

kay6568@peoplepc.com

**Lge. Drink Containers: Cindy Paulson****Ways & Means: Dick Johnsen & Doris Rogers**

484-2666 RNEjohnsen@aol.com

203-9045 doris.rogers@live.com

**Photographers: Cathie McCallum, Ed Brigden,  
Cindy Paulson****Reporters: Cindy Kenna, Barbara Miller, Thelma  
Slocum, Marion Sparks, Donna Clark**