

## Fort Collins, Greeley, Loveland, and Surrounding Areas

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Here we are in January and the weather outside is warm! A few days ago I

saw green plants eager to grow in my east garden. It seems to me that I was delighted to put my garden to rest a few months ago. One green bit of color has me ready to start digging again. All this has me wondering how our garden at the Benson Park is doing? We'll be needing your help soon. If we all pitch in we can make it a show case this year.

We have three editors for our newsletter and they need a big thanks for it is a time consuming job. Look them up at the next meeting and let them know how much they are appreciated. They are Ed Brigden, Cindy Paulson and Marilyn Garner



Cindy Paulson and Marilyn Garner.

Finally welcome our new president, Marcia Ross, for she will do a great job. Something just occurred to me: the last three presidents, and perhaps it goes back even further, have all been women. Gentlemen, it would be

See you at the next meeting on January 13.

nice to see you lead us as well. Think about it.

Next Meeting January 13, 2012 7:00 PM

# **CANADA**

A New Look at our Northern Neighbor

> Faith Church Of Christ 1020 Walnut Windsor, CO



Judith Cadarette



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#### **UPCOMING EXCHANGES**

# LINCOLN, NE JUNE 22—28

Inbound

The Lincoln club will join us in Colorado as an incoming exchange. You may recall that FFNC had an outbound exchange to Lincoln in June, 2011. If the incoming participants are anything like our hosts in June, we should have a fun time.

If you would like to assist in any preparatory planning and/or to assist in the exchange, please contact me.

PLEASE NOTE ABOVE DATE CHANGES!

#### **EXCHANGE DIRECTOR**

Carolyn Crowley 377-1299 cjcrowley707@gmail.com

# JANUARY MEETING JANUARY 13

The January 13 program will be a report from Barb Turnbull, Exchange Director, and the ambassadors of the Canada exchange to Calgary & Penticton in September. Ed Brigden and Dennis Miller will share a presentation of photos from these exchanges.



# **BRAZIL**

SAO JOSE DE RIO PRETO CURITIBA METROPOLITANO

Outbound

# SEPTMEBER 17—OCTOBER 5

As exchange director for this outgoing Brazil exchange, I will be needing the Ambassador Application and Agreement Forms turned in to me if you have not done so. If anyone needs these forms please contact me. Also a deposit for the exchange will be required soon. Right now we are working on a flight plan to include all fights required for the two exchanges as well as the five day extension tour to Rio and Iguassu Falls. All air and tour costs will be approximately \$3500. We have room for anyone still interested in this exchange. More information will be forthcoming at the January meeting. If

you have questions, please e contact me.

EXCHANGE DIRECTOR
Judy Flatley 223-1037
flatleyjl@msn.com



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#### **CHRISTMAS PARTY—DECEMBER 9**

The FFNC Christmas Party was a success! We held a sit-down catered dinner for 62. Initial concerns for an overcrowded venue and inability to move about proved unfounded.

The morning of the party, 15 Elves arrived to help set up tables and to decide on how to assist at the party to assure that everyone was fed in an orderly manner.

As at any FFNC social with food, there was plenty. Although caterers brought the main courses, our board members brought a great variety of desserts (which impressed both the caterer as well as attendees).

#### **FFNC Christmas Elves**

Margaret Beckman Rosemary Donovan

Lucinda Black
Anne Brown
Judith Cadarette
Cinda Clark
Helen Crihfield
B J DeMersseman

Cindy Paulson
Doris Rogers
Marcia Ross
Marian Sparks
Kay Thomas
Willie Westdorp

#### **Elf Duties:**

Place settings; tableware; decorations; tables & chairs; serving setup; greeters; traffic directors; arrangements; drinks. Well done!

Jane Willhour





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# CHRISTMAS PARTY—DECEMBER 9, CONTINUED



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## **FFI FIELD REP UPDATES**

Starting with this December's Field Rep Conference Call, FF is now up to date technically. Woo-hoo! Pallie Savoie (from FFI) worked with each Field Rep individually to get each computer set up. Then, on THE DAY, we got connected and, with web cams activated, we could see the other participants during the course of the call. Quite an improvement!

We watched a presentation, BY THE NUMBERS, that George Brown made at the International Conference in Hamburg. This presentation launched a new way to introduce new prospects to Friendship Force. However, unable to

### **NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA**

A recent email from Raelene Thorpe, Murray Bridge, Australia, to Kay Thomas:

"....We are aware of Northern Colorado FF, partly because of the wonderful exchanges we have experienced together, but I think George Brown is touting you as an example to other clubs, (Australia at least) because you were mentioned a couple of times at the 2011 All Australian Conference. No doubt we will hear about the successes of the "theme" [FFNC Sustainability Festival; Grand Junction Adventure Exchange] exchange at the 2012 Conference in Melbourne in February!!"

Trevor and Raelene Thorpe were one of many warm host families for our FFNC Exchange to Australia in October, 2008. (FFNC had Exchanges to Mt. Barker, Murray Bridge, and Canberra-Queanbeyan—that year with stops in Melbourne and Sydney). They Thorpes also were among the Mt. Barker Ambassadors welcomed here in the May 2009 inbound exchange led by Judy Flatley.

download this speech, perhaps we can get a DVD that we can present at one of our FFNC meetings.

We also learned of some of the details that the Japanese are working on for their International Conference to be held on October 30-November 4 and some extended tours or/and Home stays. Everyone will be asked to arrive by October 30 as the conference begins the next morning. More details to follow.

Happy New Year! Betty Jean DeMersseman

# NEWS FROM CHRISTCHURCH, NZ

A Christmas greeting from John & Heather Ponder (ED for our FFNC Exchange to Christchurch, NZ in November, 2010) is below. We stayed in their home, which escaped damage from the September 4, 2010 quake, but subsequently became unlivable in the strong 6.1 February 21, 2011 earthquake. It is hard to fathom that the Christchurch area has had 9522 quakes, (including aftershocks), since the initial Sept. 4, 2010 trembler!

To observe earthquake locations and magnitudes throughout a given time period on a Google map of the Christchurch area, google www.christchurchquakemap.co.nz.

Ed Brigden

:...you will understand just how much it means to us to hear from all our dear friends. We thought things were starting to improve and then wham another shakeup [6.0 level on 12/23]. John and I are still living in the rented house near the Supermarket, nothing has been done to Huntsbury [our home area], it is so frustrating but there is so much red tape, I telephone every week but get absolutely nowhere. It is such a big job. We have our down days but then say at least we are alive. Workers spent all day Christmas Day fixing pipes, electric power and drains, missing time with family, a big sacrifice..."

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# Mountain States Regional Conference April 27—28 Cheyenne, WY

#### "ROPING THE FRIENDSHIP FORCE FUTURE"

The Friendship Force of Cheyenne will host our 2012 Mountain States Regional Conference April 27-28. The conference program looks excellent, with a variety of sessions and workshops! The begins with the option of a Friday afternoon Historic Cheyenne tour. The opening conference session Friday evening at the Plains Hotel will include dinner, opening Keynote with FFI Board Member, Cinda Clark, and entertainment by Todd Dereemer, Wyoming songwriter/ singer. Saturday is a full day with nine different workshop choices and three general sessions, including Keynote and Q & A sessions with FFI President George Brown. Workshop and general session presenters will be members and leaders from all Friendship Force clubs of our Mtn. States Region. Northern Colorado presenters will be Thelma Slocum, Judy Flatley, Cindy Paulson and CInda Clark. A post-conference option for Saturday evening will include "Bunkhouse Barbeque," with dance entertainment by *Folclorico Colonias de Jalisco*, then square dancing fun, called by our own Dennis Miller. There is no additional cost for this Saturday evening event, but registration/sign-up is necessary. The cost for the entire conference, including Friday evening meal, general session and entertainment, and all day Saturday conference sessions and meals will be \$90 (Early Registration price available through March 16) or \$100 after March 16. Friday-only cost will be \$40 or Saturday-only will be \$75.

Home hosting is available for Friday &/or Saturday. Or lodging at the Plains Hotel is available for \$79 single or \$89 double per night.

The conference registration form and complete conference program information will be available at our January 13 Friendship Force meeting. Let's all plan to get registered to attend the 2012

Mountain States Regional Conference in Cheyenne!

Cindy Paulson

The Mountain States Regional Conference is held every other year and is hosted by one of our member clubs (Northern Colorado, Grand Junction, Denver, Estes Park, Colorado Springs, Cheyenne, Salt Lake City).

FFNC hosted a very successful April, 2010 Conference in Fort Collins, led by Marian Sparks.

This Conference permits us to get up to date on FFI future plans (from George Brown, FFI president), to share between clubs what works for member recruitment, orientation and involvement; information via newsletter and website; Exchange planning, promotion and execution,; and other applicable topics to help strengthen each club and their leaders.



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Inbound

Outbound

#### **EXCHANGE CALENDAR**

Mountain States Regional Conference

April 27-28

Chevenne, WY

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Lincoln, NE June 22-28

Carolyn Crowley 377-1299 cjcrowley707@gmail.com

**Brazil** 

Sept 17-Oct 5

Sao Jose de Rio Preto Sept 18-24

Curitiba Metropolitano Sept 24-30

Judy Flatley 223-1037 flatleyjl@msn.com

South Taranaki,

October 14-20

**New Zealand** 

Cindy Paulson 225-2252

cdp225@msn.com

FFI World Conference

October 30-November 3

Hiroshima, Japan

**FFI World Conference** 

November 22-25, 2013

New Orleans, LA

0 1 3

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### **2011 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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686-0303 dsj55@aol.com

Historian: Ken Weaver

356-5068 interweaver@greeleynet.com

Greeting Table: Kay Thomas 278-9054

Willie Westdorp 667-6525

Hospitality: Elizabeth Hutson & Mary Riney

356-8311 elizabethhutson219@gmail.com 330-5248

Tablecloth Mgr; Kay Sheahan

667-4473 kay6568@peoplepc.com

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# NEW ZEALAND OCTOBER 14—20

Inbound

The Kiwi's are coming! Join us to help plan and to get involved in an exchange that will be as fun and inclusive as were our Exchanges in October/November, 2010 to S. Taranaki North

Island) and Christchurch (South Island).

Although the South Taranaki **EXCHANGE DIRECTOR Cindy Paulson 225-2**2

cdp225@msn.com

club currently has 17 signed up for the Exchange, we expect that they will gain numbers after their All-New Zealand Conference in February at Hawera (location of the S. Taranaki Club).





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