



friendship force
NORTHERN COLORADO



Sue Cummins - Editor & Publisher

July &
August
2015

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

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**August Picnic
with
Cheyenne
& Napier
Noon 'til 3 p.m.
Sunday, August 23
Shelter House 3
North Lake Park
Loveland**

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

ELECTION RESULTS! The Friendship Force of Northern Colorado has spoken, and our 2016 officers are:

President: Nita Koplyay - 970-613-2066
Vice President: Barbara Miller - 970-667-7330
Secretary: Kay Sheahan - 970-667-4473
Treasurer: Ray Garcia - 970-669-3699

We are so fortunate to have such great talent in our club. Congratulations to our 2016 officers; I wish you a great 2016.

Remember that there is **NO FFNC MEETING** in July. Our annual August picnic with the FF of Cheyenne will double as a welcome for our visitors from New Zealand (and other parts of the world). We will meet on Sunday, August 23, 2015, from noon to 3 p.m. in Shelter House #3 at North Lake Park in Loveland. Our club will provide chicken, drinks, and tableware. We'd like each of you members to bring a side dish or dessert to share and to also bring folding chairs to ensure plenty of seating. It should be a great afternoon together. See page 3 for more particulars.

I received much positive feedback from our Ambassadors from San Diego regarding their recent visit. Sue and I were able to participate in all of the activities, and they were wonderful. The ambassadors that we hosted, Andy and Nancy Alongi, truly enjoyed everything we did, and they are excited about our club's planned visit to San Diego in 2016. I never dreamed that I would actually meet and talk to Elvis, not to mention that fellow pictured with me above! Kudos to Barbara Miller and her helpers for providing such a marvelous exchange!

On a personal note, thank you FFNC for the 50th Wedding Anniversary card. You are so thoughtful—it means a lot to me and Sue. As you may know, June 12th, our last meeting date, was our actual anniversary date. I thank Nita for filling in for me at that meeting so that Sue and I could participate in the activities that our children and grandchildren had planned for us. It was a great evening, including a surprise party, but Elvis wasn't there.



Gary & friend at Distortions Unlimited in Greeley

Gary Cummins

JUNE MEETING



Let there be peace on earth...



Hazel and Richard share the jackpot.

Our speaker, Dr. Bill Cooper, knows more than most how much the people of Ukraine would love to experience “peace on earth,” at least in their country.

Tin Aung Moe, “Trusted Partner” from Myanmar, Visits Northern Colorado...

...eating Greek food for the first time, with Nita, Marcia, Sue, Gary, and his host, Dot. Moe spoke at the Loveland Library, spoke to the Dallas FF club, and experienced many more “firsts” in Colorado, New York, Atlanta, and San Francisco; live blues music, eating elk, sliding in and holding snow, riding in a convertible and in a sailboat, Rocky Mountain National Park, Golden Gate Bridge, cable cars, redwood trees...



Thank you, Moe, for visiting your Trusted Partners.
We appreciate you.

AUGUST MEETING: ANNUAL PICNIC IN LOVELAND

Mark your calendars to join us for our annual regional picnic.

When: Sunday, August 23, 2015, 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Who: FFNC & FF Cheyenne, plus ambassadors from FF Napier, New Zealand and other NZ locations; Ontario, Canada; Tennessee, U.S.A.; Tasmania, Australia; and Osaka, Japan.

Where: North Lake Park in Loveland, Shelter #3 (nearest Lake Loveland)

Directions: From Taft Avenue between Highway 34 and 29th Street, turn east onto North Lake Park Street, just north of the fire station. Shelter #3 is on the right (south) side, with a big parking lot.

What: Bring a side dish or dessert to share and a couple of folding lawn chairs.

If you have a folding table you could easily bring, that would be helpful, too.

FFNC will provide chicken, drinks and table service.

PLEASE NOTE: We need an accurate count for ordering the chicken. If you did NOT already sign up at the June 12 FFNC meeting, **please email Marcia Ross (mross377@msn.com) or call and leave a message at 970-377-0512 by AUGUST 10th, to let me know you are planning to attend.** Remember we don't meet in July, and this takes the place of our August meeting, so there won't be an opportunity to sign up any other way.

Hope you can join us for this fun event!

Marcia Ross



Upcoming Napier, NZ Inbound Exchange August 21-27

“Ready or not,” they’ll soon be here. Welcome our 22 Ambassadors (14 from Napier, New Zealand, and the rest from Canada, Australia, Japan, and Tennessee) when we join the Cheyenne FF club at the Regional Picnic on Sunday, August 23rd, at North Lake Park in Loveland. See page 3 for directions on how to tell Marcia that you’re coming. Activities during the exchange will include the following and more:

- Benson Sculpture Park
- Rocky Mountain National Park
- Magic Bus tour of Fort Collins area
- Small Group Dinners
- Farewell dinner with Elvis entertaining
- Greeley and Estes Park attractions

Exchange Director is Sue Cummins.

2016 Rocky Mountain Regional Conference

“New Directions”

The 2016 conference will be hosted by the Western Colorado Friendship Force Club in Grand Junction on May 13-15, 2016.

With a theme of “New Directions, conference lodging and meetings will be held at the Grand Junction Downtown Hampton Inn, Fairfield Inn, and Spring Hill Suites.

Members of the Friendship Force of Western Colorado are excited to host the conference and to show off their beautiful area.

Questions? Call or email Sue Palmer at 970-260-4653 or alfshouse12@hotmail.com.

Farewell, New San Diego Friends

I believe our team and both clubs would put this Exchange in the successful category. Some of the strengths of the exchange were:

- Planning team members were faithful in attending meetings and organizing their activities in each community
- Welcome Party was loads of fun with a delicious catered meal and tasty beverages, and the Elvis entertainment was a hoot
- Substitutions of the Raptor Center, Distortions Unlimited and the Model Railroad Museum were well received by participants
- Fantastic weather most of the week
- Thursday AM transportation to DIA shuttles went off without a hitch
- Farewell “Hoedown” Party was a success, as shown by the five squares that got up to dance with Caller Mark Hammitt — WOW!
- Feedback from Ambassadors regarding the activities and club members was extremely positive; a good time had by all!

Hosts, Dinner Hosts, and Day Hosts were extremely **flexible and hospitable** to the Ambassadors – a BIG Thank You! And an added big thank you to all the club members who supported the exchange by participating.

This exchange was a wonderful learning experience for me, and I have worked to create documents, spreadsheets, contacts, and a notebook that could be helpful for future Exchange Directors, if they choose to use it. Thank you for allowing me to have this opportunity.

It was a joy to serve the club as the ED for this exchange.

Barbara Miller

BENSON GARDEN THANKS

Thanks to each of the 10 club members who turned out to spread mulch at Benson Sculpture Park in early June. The turnout was a great way for our club to say thanks for the scenic park that enhances most of our incoming exchange itineraries.

If you can, please stop by and pull a few bind weeds over the summer weeks. Bindweeds are the deceptive ones with small white to pink quarter-sized flowers that turn into monsters almost overnight in hot, moist weather. We can attest that it is satisfying to pull them; they are easily extracted and often come with a bonus of a long vine or root attached! It's great therapy after a rough day! The only tool you need is a small shopping bag or fast food bag to use to stash your catch of weeds.

If we each take a few minutes, we can keep the weeds that sprout within the "good plants" under control and prevent the "bad ones" from overtaking the garden.

Happy pulling!

Nancy Brigden



Bad Bindweeds

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They've arrived!

Peru will never be the same!

SAN DIEGO INBOUND EXCHANGE A GOOD TIME HAD BY ALL



Refer to our website, ffncolo.com for newsletter issues and information on programs, exchanges, leadership contacts, upcoming events, and for opportunities to apply for other regional club exchanges.

Inbound

Outbound

EXCHANGE CALENDAR

2015 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

July 10-30, Lima, Peru; Outbound
Exchange Director: Alice Gibson
aligibs@gmail.com 310-8848

August 21-27; Napier, New Zealand;
Inbound
Exchange Director: Sue Cummins
sue@gscummins.com 682-2266

August 29-31
Friendship Force International World
Conference; Vancouver, BC, Canada.

September 23-30
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Inbound
Exchange Director: Nita Koplyay,
koplyay@comcast.net 613-2066

San Diego Outbound, dates TBA
Exchange Director needed.

May 13-15, Rocky Mountain Regional
Conference, Grand Junction

June; Greater Hamilton and Burling-
ton, Canada; Exchange Director
Needed

September 9-21 Inbound
Peaks to Plains Global Exchange
Exchange Director: Marilyn Garner
garner.marilyn@gmail.com 493-4137

October Outbound
Stratford-St. Marys, Canada
Exchange Director Needed

October 2-5
FFI International World Conference
Marrakech, Morocco

President: Gary Cummins
682-2266 gary@gscummins.com

Vice President: Nita Koplyay
613-2066 koplyay@comcast.net

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381-8898 paulette.weaver@gmail.com

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669-5426 clarksmail@msn.com

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Friendship Force International
800-554-6715; www.thefriendship force.org

Peaks to Plains Global Exchange – Sept 9-21, and Sept 21-29, 2016

We have completed plans for the Peaks to Plains exchange, which includes all 6 FF clubs in the Western Region. The exchange is divided into 2 parts: Basic Exchange, September 9-21, 2016; and an Extension, September 21-29, 2016.

The Basic Exchange begins in Cheyenne on September 9, moves to Northern Colorado, then on to clubs in Denver and in Colorado Springs/Pikes Peak. Ambassadors will stay with each club for 3 days, for a total of 13 days on the Basic Exchange. On September 21, the Ambassadors will either return to their homes, or they will participate in the Extension Exchange, which will have them traveling on to Grand Junction for a 3-day stay, followed by 2 nights at the Pack Creek Ranch and a tour of Arches National Park, before a 3-day wrap-up in Salt Lake City, Utah. The full Itinerary is available on our FFNC web site.

The primary focus for these exchanges is to capitalize on the beauty of our vast region, to showcase the different points of interest, and to highlight our unique cultural and geological diversity.

We are currently working on marketing and advertising, which will be initially offered at the International Convention in Vancouver in late August, 2015 and will be shown on the FFI web site at that same time.



Marilyn Garner is the ED for the Northern Colorado part of the exchange, which will be September 12 – September 15, 2016. She will need your assistance for the FFNC part of this exchange and would appreciate your help. This is a Global Exchange, and is advertised as English-speaking. We look forward to attracting a diverse group of Ambassadors from throughout the FFI world. Call Kay Thomas with any questions at 278-9054.

2016 Rocky Mountain Regional Conference

The 2016 conference will be hosted by the Western Colorado Friendship Force Club in Grand Junction May 13-15, 2016.

With a theme of “New Directions, the conference planners have arranged for lodging and meetings at the Grand Junction Downtown Hampton Inn, Fairfield Inn, and Spring Hill Suites.

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