



friendship force  
NORTHERN COLORADO



Sue Cummins—Editor & Publisher

June  
2015

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

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**June Meeting  
Bill Cooper  
What It's Like to Live  
in Donetsk, Ukraine**

**7 p.m.  
Friday, June 12  
First Christian Church  
2000 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Loveland 80538**

**FROM OUR PRESIDENT**



Dear Friends,

I thank all of you who were at our May meeting for your patience and flexibility as we once again had to scramble to adjust to the room changes and kitchen restrictions placed upon us due to the church having a special program during our meeting time. We are fortunate that the church allows us to meet in their facility, but it is your flexibility that makes it work out so well.

At the beginning of the year, we discussed wanting our club to grow its membership. I'm pleased to inform you that we have 12 new members since January 2015. One visitor to our May meeting became an Affiliate Member of the FFNC before she left that evening. There are no doubt various reasons for these new memberships happening, but I want to recognize two. First, I'm impressed with the way you invite friends to come and experience our meetings and activities. Secondly, I appreciate the genuine friendliness that you demonstrate towards our visitors. Each month, when I follow up with our visitors, I hear how friendly you are and how welcome our visitors feel because of you.

I commend our board members for their unanimous support of the new "Affiliate Membership" status. This is an appropriate and fair way to treat those who want to belong to more than one Friendship Force club.

Debby Jones and Charlie Carihfield spent a good number of hours poring over all of our financial records to perform our annual audit. The results? All monies have been accounted for, and I'm pleased to say that our club is in great financial shape—except your president still can't get a company car approved—go figure!

**Please remember, June 12, 2015, is our next Club meeting date—no meeting in July—annual picnic on August 22, 2015 in place of our regular meeting.**

*Gary Cummins*

## JUNE PROGRAM

### WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LIVE IN DONETSK UKRAINE

Between 1990 and 2000, Bill Cooper was an adjunct professor for Denver Seminary, teaching in seminaries in Moscow, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine. He taught in Haiti for many years after that, and he and his wife were there during the 2010 earthquake.



Bill Cooper

What's it like to live in Donetsk, Ukraine? What do the people there think of as normal? What does it mean there to "go shopping"? What would make you afraid if you lived there? What would you get paid for your work there?

Bill will answer these and many more questions about Donetsk and Ukraine. See you there!



## Nominations for 2016 Officers

Our superb Nominating Committee, chaired by Larry Clark and also including Marcia Ross and Marilyn Garner, has proposed a superb slate of officers for next year. This slate was accepted by your board at its April meeting.

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

Members will vote on this slate and on any other nominations (which can be made from the floor) at our June meeting. Any person nominated must have given consent.

## TERESA FUNKE "STUCK IN WWII" AT MAY MEETING



Teresa was raised in Boise, Idaho, studied abroad as a teenager, still travels extensively, and has two children. She specializes in writing stories about WWII. Her first two books were for teens and adult readers.

*Remember Wake* is based on civil contractors who were building a base on Wake Island when Pearl Harbor was bombed. They were taken prisoner in December 1941, and sent to camps in Japan and China as slave labor. Because they were civilians, our government couldn't track them. Some survived four years in captivity. After the war they received no support from the government or the company that employed them. They and their wives met every week to support each other, and were finally recognized in the 1980's. Of that group, thirteen men and women were woven into fictionalized characters in the book that is 90% true.



Larry Clark did a great job as cashier.

*Dancing in Combat Boots* describes how it felt to be a woman during the war. It's a collection of eleven stories about different social and ethnic groups of women. Teresa mentioned an African-American who felt more freedom in the army, a Mexican running a store, and an artist who sketched 3,000 wounded men in hospital beds. Wasps (Women Air Force) were mad when the organization disbanded. In conversations with these women, Teresa found they were raised to be in the background, and were not used to talking about themselves. They did not want to

suggest that they went through more difficulties than the men. She was the first person in fifty years to ask about their experiences—their families didn't know about what happened to them.

Teresa had problems getting these first two books published. Her agent said, "Oral histories don't sell; rewrite a short story collection for a magazine." Then she was told short stories wouldn't sell. So she started her own publication business, Victory House Press, and the books became best sellers.

Teresa discovered that fifth grade children had not heard about the war, and when she began speaking to them, she found them to be so interested that they would skip recess to listen to her stories. She has written four books for children ages 8 and up, called the *Home-Front Heroes Series*. Teachers create lesson plans to include her books.

*Doing My Part* is based on a real person later living in Greeley who worked at the Westclox factory in Illinois that put timing devices in bombs. *The No-No Boys* describes growing up in a Japanese-American internment camp in Tulle Lake, California. The No-Nos protested their treatment by refusing to take the loyalty oath. *V for Victory* is set in San Antonio, Texas, where a child's responsibilities were to help in the family grocery and take care of his nephew while his Mom worked and his father was at war. More books in the *Home-Front Heroes* series are to come.

*Marian Sparks*



## San Diego Inbound Exchange June 5-11, 2015

“Ready or Not,” they’ll soon be here. Welcome our 21 San Diego Ambassadors at the party planned for Friday, June 5, at the Adriel Hills Clubhouse in Ft. Collins; with special entertainment provided by...Elvis! Other fun activities while they’re here are listed below. There was a “last chance” sign up at the May FFNC meeting. However, we may be able to squeeze YOU in if you call really soon. Some of the activities include:

- Welcome Party (catered)
- Centennial Village
- Foundry Tours
- Benson Sculpture Park
- The Stanley Hotel
- Rocky Mountain National Park
- Downtown Tours
- Rocky Mountain Raptor Center
- Trolley Rides
- Historic House Tours
- Small Group Dinners (2)
- Great Options for Sunday (Free Day) including New Belgium Brewery
- Farewell “Hoedown” Dinner

I would like to **THANK** the planning team that has worked so hard to make this exchange happen: Anne Brown, B.J. Demerssman, Rosemary Donovan, Lydia & Ray Garcia, Marilyn Garner, Dan & Diane Locke, Dennis Miller, Doris Rogers, and Assistant ED Diane Martell. What a joy to work with these folks!

Barbara Miller, 667-7330  
San Diego In-bound ED

## Save the Dates

MARK YOUR CALENDARS TO JOIN US:

**When:** Sunday, August 23, 2015, 12:01 to 3 p.m.

**What:** FFNC & FF CHEYENNE REGIONAL PICNIC

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

**Bring:** A side dish or dessert to share. FFNC will provide chicken, drinks, and table service.

We will be hosting FF Napier, New Zealand that week, so they will participate in the picnic, too!

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2016

### Rocky Mountain Regional Conference

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

The Conference Theme is “New Directions.”

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](mailto:alfshouse12@hotmail.com).

## BENSON GARDEN FUN

Volunteers from The Friendship Force of Northern Colorado adopted a garden in Loveland's Benson Sculpture Park in 2011. We invite you to join us for one or all of the work sessions listed below. Here's the upcoming schedule, Weather Permitting:

- Saturday, June 6, Tentative All-City Work Day to spread mulch and plant
- Saturday, June 13, 9:00 a.m. Regular Work Day

The FFNC garden is on the east side of the Park just north of 29th Street at the Park's east entry. You'll know you are there when you see the fat ladies of the *They Are Waiting* Sculpture off to the right at the entry from Beech Street. There are also several signs to denote that FFNC volunteers take care of this entryway.

Crew times are flexible. Come when you can, stay for as long as you wish, but usually not for more than an hour or two. So grab your hat, tools, gloves, and a water bottle and come on out. Call Nancy Brigden at 970.352.3829 if you have a question.

Photos below include Friendship Force friends Edith Schoof and Bernd Marczinowski from Kiel, Germany, who recently visited Cheryl Stevens and joined our gardeners for a work day.



Cheryl, Edith, Cindy Paulson, Pam Wolfe, Bernd, Marcia Ross, and Pam's dog Buddha



Nancy Brigden, Bernd, Cheryl, Edith



Cheryl, Marilyn Garner, Nita Kopyay

## FIELD REPRESENTATIVE NEWS

Note: The April Field Rep Conference call was cancelled. At the May 18th conference call we discussed the following:

At least 20 people in the region will be attending the International Conference in Vancouver, B.C.

Our regional exchange season has started. Anita Smith, President of the Denver Club, reported that the Denver Exchange to Biarritz, France was a complete success. All 23 ambassadors were hosted by acquaintances from the French Exchange to Denver last summer. Club members from Denver then extended their trip to Bordeaux for three nights. They also visited San Sebastian and Barcelona, Spain, popular tourist destinations. Anita, who started out with a visit to Paris, spent 21 days on this trip. Her costs were about \$4000. What an investment to anyone's MEMORY BANK!

Margaret Boies-Ingraham reported that Salt Lake City is planning for an Incoming Exchange from Niagara, Canada. Their club will be visiting a Canadian club near there in 2016.

Cheyenne will be returning from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania this week. Harrisburg will be visiting Cheyenne and Northern Colorado in September, and both clubs are busy planning a joint exchange.

Please let me know if you have information to pass along to other clubs.

*Barbara Guilford, Field Rep*

## More on Your Feedback

We've emailed your feedback to the 2015 Membership Survey to you soon. Your responses demonstrated several constructive points.

First, the things you like best about our club indicate that we are doing a lot of things well (our 12 new memberships mentioned earlier would indicate this, too).

Second, you value our meeting programs, and you would like to see their length stay around 40 minutes including questions. Much thanks goes to Esther Johnsen for the fine programming we have.



Thirdly, you shared a number of good recommendations that your Board has discussed for possible implementation. Based upon your feedback we are putting emphasis on starting our meetings on time and ending them by 9 p.m. We have already begun to recognize a member each meeting (see Debby in photo) for contributions to our membership and to Friendship Force in general. Stay tuned for more initiatives.

*Gary recognizes Debby Jones,  
our able Storekeeper*

*Gary Cummins*

Refer to our website, [ffncolo.com](http://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**

2  
0  
1  
5  
  
  
  
  
  
2  
0  
1  
6

June 5-9; San Diego; Inbound  
Exchange Director: Barbara Miller,  
bmill4708@comcast.net 667-7330

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  
Home Hosts, Day Hosts, and Dinner  
Hosts needed.

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

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

San Diego Outbound, dates TBA  
Exchange Director needed.

May, Rocky Mountain Regional Conf.

June; Greater Hamilton and Burling-  
ton, Canada ED 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

October 2-5  
FFI International World Conference  
Marrakech, Morocco

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682-2266 gary@gscummins.com

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Slocum, Marion Sparks**

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

## Myanmar Friendship Partner to Speak at Loveland Library

Tin Aung Moe, our In-Country Facilitator for Friendship Partners in Myanmar, will be speaking on the "Past, Present, and Future of Myanmar" at the Loveland Public Library at 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesday, June 23, 2015. If you want to get up-to-date information about this Southeast-Asian country located strategically between China and India, this is your opportunity. Moe has tried since 2004 to help build three Friendship Partners groups our club is mentoring in Yangon, Bagan, and Mandalay. Moe will be meeting with our club president and other board members during his visit from June 19-26.

## A Delightful Unofficial Mini-Exchange

Cheryl Stevens recently hosted guests Bernd Marcinowski and Edith Schoof from FF Kiel, Germany. Disappointed their club exchange was canceled, Edith and Bernd decided to visit for a week on their own. Cheryl planned a fun itinerary, and a few FFNC members who had participated in our exchange to Kiel last May shared in parts of the mini-exchange.



## Get to Know Some of Our Newest Members

**Lannie Christensen** lives in Thornton, and is interested in skiing, traveling, and reading.

**Kitty Greenlee**, from Greeley, is retired from the Colorado Department of Corrections. She enjoys traveling, crafts, and painting.

**David McClain** lives in Sterling and is retired from the publishing and printing field. He enjoys photography, new adventures and experiences, and new friends.

**Mary & Don Nelson** are Loveland residents, and both are retiring this spring. Mary has been a faculty assistant at Monroe Elementary in Loveland, and she enjoys outdoor activities, crafts, photography, scrapbooking, reading, and hiking. Don is a former Railroad Manager and has recently worked in the maintenance department for the Thompson School District. He enjoys sports, history and volunteering.

**Rosalie Summers** has been an active member of FF Greater Denver. She recently moved to Longmont and has dual memberships with our club and the Denver club. She has participated on many committees and assisted with and/or trav-

eled on multiple exchanges.

**Pam Wolfe** resides in Berthoud. She is a retired RN and has many interests, including hiking, quilting, photography, reading, and traveling. She and her cute dog, Buddha, are a welcome new addition to our gardening workforce in Benson Park.

## And More About Some Not-So-New Members

**Janice Manning** sent a nice note from North Dakota, telling us that she regrets that she will no longer be a member, due to a "muscle issue." She says that she and Betty Jean "attended several conferences, and it was a joy to bring back info. for our club. Each home visit I did was a learning experience...I am happy to know new members are being so active." We'll miss you, too, Janice.

**Gary & Sue Cummins** were married 50 years ago this month in Columbia, Missouri, at the A.P. Green Chapel at the University of Missouri.