



friendship force
NORTHERN COLORADO



St. Cummins Editor & Publisher

March
2018

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE**

Fort Collins, Estes Park, Greeley, Loveland, Windsor, and more

President's Message



As we begin a new year with new officers and leadership for Friendship Force of Northern Colorado, I'm reminded of our mission as an organization. Our purpose is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people. We are an organization of over 15,000 active members worldwide in 60 different countries. By sharing a home, meals, conversation and everyday experiences, people become friends, seeing beyond governments and borders into the heart of a country and its people. Exploration leads to understanding that leads to acceptance and a desire to serve our global village with words and actions.

We have an opportunity in 2018 to enjoy getting to know people in our outbound journeys to Germany and the UK, and incoming with St. Louis. I hope that as many as you can will be a part of these journeys, either as ambassadors, hosts, day hosts, small group dinners, or just coming to the events planned and get to know the people.

I also want to encourage as many members as possible to sign up for the Western Regional Super Conference, May 3-5, 2018. Participating clubs are from the Pacific Northwest, Rocky Mountain, West Coast, and Western Canada. The conference is hosted by the Friendship Force of Sacramento, California. To register go to www.thefriendshipforce.org/westernconf

I'm looking forward to an exciting year as your president, and I know that with the help of all of you it will be a wonderful experience. Cathie, Debby, and I will meet to finalize our 2018 budget and goals for the coming year and share it with the board. Cathie McCallum has some great programs planned for the New Year, and we are looking forward to those in the coming months.

I look forward to working closely with all of you as your 2018 president.

Thelma Slocum

World Friendship Day Potluck	2
February program	3
Fall 2018 Journey to England/ Germany; Have you paid your dues?	4
Jimmy Carter Letter	5
Choose Your Adventure	6
Benson Gardens	7
Journeys Calendar & Officers	8

World Friendship Day Celebration & Potluck Friday, March 9 6 to 9 p.m. First Christian Church 2000 North Lincoln Loveland

World Friendship Day Celebration with Potluck

Asian Nations Theme

Friday, March 9, 6 to 9 p.m.

First Christian Church, Loveland

Bring your favorite international dish, preferably Asian. Wear a costume from another country, preferably Asian. Bring your souvenirs from Asian places to decorate the tables.

This is the perfect opportunity to invite your interested friends and neighbors to learn a bit of what Friendship Force is about.



Featuring *Noriko Garofalo*

Noriko will present an interactive program of Japanese culture, theatre, and humor. Don't miss your opportunity to meet this dynamic woman and participate in a very unique program.

Noriko has a Master of Arts in Rhetoric & Communication, a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts from University of Oregon, and a Bachelor of Arts in German Studies from Dokkyo University in Japan. She taught Japanese and Traditional Japanese Theater at Gettysburg College for six years. She taught Japanese Language at state universities including the University of Oregon, Eastern Michigan University, the University of Michigan, Indiana University, the University of Maryland, and Colorado State University. She has served as a private tutor of Japanese since 2004. She is an avid tennis player and a breast cancer survivor.

Noriko asks that each of us bring a pair of socks to wear while participating in the Kyogen walk. Come see what that is and learn a Japanese movement.

Cathie McCallum Googled Kyogen, and found the following: Literally "mad words," it is a type of traditional Japanese comedy theatre that was historically performed during the intermission between acts of Noh performances. Early forms of Kyogen can be traced back as far as the 14th century. It is performed using an archaic version of Japanese that might be compared to the early modern English found in Shakespeare plays. Performances are short and involve elements of slapstick and satire. Both dialog and actions are exaggerated to make the play easy to understand. Characters are stock characters such as master and servant. In modern times, Kyogen is often performed independently of Noh plays. Many plays are familiar classics that are based on old folk tales. Performances are based on the Japanese [Jo-ha-kyu aesthetic](#), meaning that they begin slowly, speed up, and then end suddenly.

Impressive International Grad Students Shared Their Experiences in February

Imagine traveling to another country to attend a university graduate-level program, with the requirements to both take classes and teach classes as Teaching Assistants. We had the pleasure of listening to three such students who are attending CSU as participants in the Languages, Literature and Cultures Master's program.

Cathie McCallum facilitated an interesting panel conversation with Ernesto Juarez, from Mexico; Stephany Caceres, from Honduras; and Valentino Rahming, from the Bahamas. They have undergraduate degrees from their respective countries, and each worked in a professional field at home before joining this program. Stephany and Valentino were teachers, and Ernesto was an editor and proofreader. All three have aspirations of eventually attaining their PhDs, and using their degrees and new skills back in their home countries.

Cathie asked them to share some experiences from their time here, as well as their overall reactions to being in Fort Collins. Ernesto noted that as a non-native English speaker he is still not always sure he's saying things exactly correctly, but that he feels fulfilled that his students seem passionate about learning Spanish, and they have been kind and responsive to him. He said is bothered when people show indifference to one another. Stephany shared that she really likes the changing weather here. This is her first time out of her country and her first time living alone. She feels that people have been very kind and helpful, and she's made several new friends, including Cathie, who hosted her for a week before school began. Stephany had been afraid that because she is quite short and she looks a lot younger than her 27 years, the students wouldn't respect her, but she's pleased her fears were unfounded. Valentino is used to moderately warm temperatures year round, so he finds our cold weather a bit challenging. He regards the students as very helpful and respectful, and feels the hospitality here is a positive aspect of the community. All three live at the CSU International House and are enjoying getting to know the other international students and sampling foods from many different countries.

They each spoke of some of the positive aspects of their home countries. Valentino shared that 30 of the 700 islands that make up the Bahamas are inhabited, and that every island has its own unique and special quality. He misses regularly having fresh seafood! Ernesto said he loves Mexico for its diverse natural beauty, and he treasures the importance of maintaining cultural and family traditions. He said being here has helped him to realize the importance of knowing and enjoying his own country. Stephany shared that although tourism isn't a huge industry in Honduras, if we were to visit, she would recommend seeing the three islands in the Atlantic that are very popular and have beautiful beaches. She feels there are many similarities in the cultures of our two countries, which surprised her. It was a pleasure to listen to these articulate, enthusiastic and goal-oriented students!

Marcia Ross



Fall 2018 Journey to England and Germany



Bristol -Halle journey 14188 – September 25-October 11, 2018

Ten ambassadors from FFNC are ready to go! Both Bristol and Halle are committed to hosting fifteen. Would you like to join the group?

On Wednesday morning, September 26th, our group boards a chartered bus in London to drive to Bristol, an area touted as the number-one tourism destination in the United Kingdom.



Bristol, England



On October 2nd the whole group will fly to Berlin, Germany, for two days of free time to visit the world heritage Museum Island, Reichstag, and other venues. A local Friendship Force contact is helping with our arrangements.

Hosting by Halle Friendship Force October 5th through 11th may include visits to Leipzig's Thomas Kirche, where Bach cantored from 1723-1750, and Wittenberg, with rich histories that include Luther and Handel, and Dresden with its Zwinger Art Gallery. On Thursday, October 11th, the ambassadors will depart on our own to extend travel in Europe or return home directly.



The basic journey is expected to cost \$1600. Airfare to and from Denver will be up to individuals because some ambassadors will choose to arrive early and/or add other destinations after Halle. Options to visit Stratford-on-Avon and London before the official journey are already in the works. Our journey together includes home stays in Bristol and Halle as well as the flight to Berlin and hotel there.

Ambassador Coordinators are Ken Weaver and Cathie McCallum.

Have You Paid Your Dues?

Just a reminder that some of you have yet to pay your 2018 dues. Thanks if you have already paid. If you still need to do so, please mail your check for \$35.00 per person made out to FFNC to Marilyn Garner, 808 E. Elizabeth, Fort Collins, CO 80524.

Affiliate members (those who belong to more than one club) should pay \$10 per member, + \$15 per member for FFI dues if you are paying that portion through FFNC. Thanks for taking care of this ASAP!

Jimmy Congratulates Us

Thelma read this letter to us last year when she had returned from the World Conference in London.
We thought you'd like to see the original.



JIMMY CARTER

August 21, 2017

Dear Friends,

Congratulations on The Friendship Force's 40th Anniversary! It is gratifying that the dream we helped realize so many years ago is still being fulfilled and making a positive difference in our world.

Back in 1977, we and our good friend Wayne Smith shared a clear vision of what The Friendship Force could mean for the betterment of our world. We believe now, with the same certainty we felt then -- that a world of friends stands a much better chance of becoming a world of peace than does a world of strangers who do not truly know or care about each other.

That is why one of my first actions after becoming president was to announce the formation of The Friendship Force. Rosalynn proudly served as the organization's honorary chair for its first 25 years, never missing an opportunity to support its efforts to forge new friendships where they were most needed. We were honored that our son Chip shared our enthusiasm for this mission and served as president of The Friendship Force, helping open new doors in Cuba, Ghana, and many other places.

Today we can all look back with gratitude for the many thousands of friendships that have been formed. Thanks to your efforts as volunteer leaders, ambassadors, and hosts, our citizen diplomacy has continued to expand.

We extend our warm best wishes to each of you as you continue to pursue the dream of a world of peace through friendship.

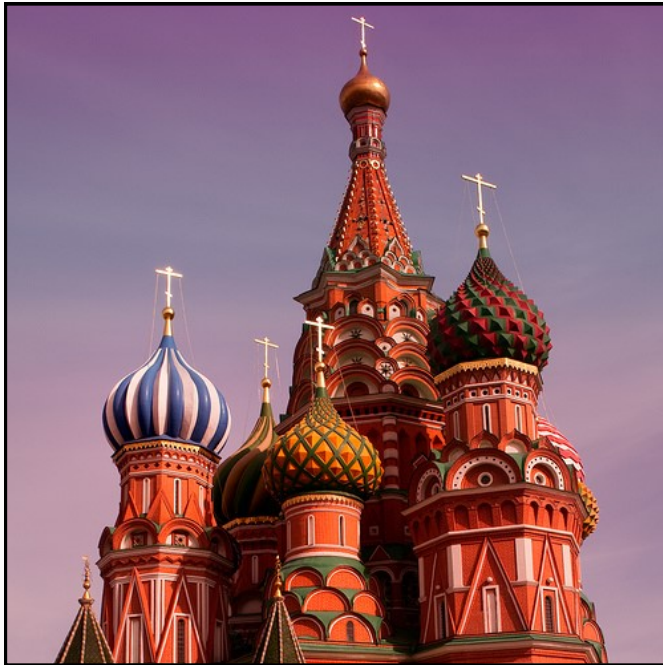
Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter
Rosalynn Carter

The Friendship Force
260 Peachtree Street, NW, No. 402
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Choose Your Own Adventure

Thanks to Judy Flatley, our Journeys Coordinator, for selecting these potential journeys for us to consider. Don't forget that you can find many more to choose from at thefriendshipforce.org/journeys.



Moscow and St. Petersburg, Russia

August to August 10, 2018

Join us on a spectacular Journey that begins with a four-night homestay with FF Moscow, followed by four nights of city exploration and with hotel accommodations in St. Petersburg! The anticipated destinations offer opportunities to connect with Friendship Force members in Russia, to see beautiful sites and views, and to learn about Russian history, culture, and art.

Coordinator: Dianne Dusman, FF Greater Harrisburg
dusmania@comcast.net

Quilting Mountain Style

May 23 to May 31, 2018

This is a unique opportunity for Friendship Force members who are quilters to share their travel and quilting experiences! Ambassadors will have a chance to meet up with quilters who share the same love of certain quilting methods, while gaining new ideas and techniques from each other and from the many planned activities. Home Hospitality provided by the Friendship Force of Western North Carolina.

Coordinator: Joan Manfree, FF Western North Carolina
jcmanfre310@gmail.com

More details about these and other journeys can be found at thefriendshipforce.org/journeys.



Benson Gardens Thanks You

Thelma,

We received your request on behalf of the Friendship Force of Northern Colorado requesting that we split your garden at Benson Sculpture Garden into two sections. We very much appreciate all of the work that has gone into this garden over the years. We are happy to honor your request, which will have the Friendship Force keeping the north half of the garden and finding additional volunteer(s) to work on the south part of the garden. We will start recruiting.

Again, many thanks for all of the hard work over the years. We will look forward to working with you again this year.



Best to you,

Kristi

Kristi Elyce

Executive Director

Loveland High Plains Arts Council

“But that's the glory of foreign travel, as far as I am concerned. I don't want to know what people are talking about. I can't think of anything that excites a greater sense of childlike wonder than to be in a country where you are ignorant of almost everything. Suddenly you are five years old again. You can't read anything, you have only the most rudimentary sense of how things work, you can't even reliably cross a street without endangering your life. Your whole existence becomes a series of interesting guesses.”

Bill Bryson, [Neither Here nor There: Travels in Europe](#)

Inbound

Outbound

JOURNEYS CALENDAR**2018 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Gather your friends and
Choose Your Own Adventure
at
thefriendshipforce.org/journeys**

Detroit Inbound
Sorry...cancelled.

St. Louis Inbound
September 5-10

Host Coordinators:
Debby Jones dsj55@aol.com 686-0303
Dennis Miller dmill5050@comcast.net
667-7330

Outbound Journey
**Halle-Saale, Germany
and Bristol, England**
September 26-October 12
Ambassador Coordinators:

Ken Weaver,
interweaver@gmail.com 381-3611
Cathie McCallum
cathiemc@gmail.com 223-0436

Super Regional Conference
Rocky Mountain States Region
Sacramento, May 3-6
www.thefriendshipforce.org/westernconf

2
0
1
8**President: Thelma Slocum**

223-9855 thelmaslocum@comcast.net

Vice President: Alice Gibson

310-8848 aligibsc@gmail.com

Secretary/Historian: LaDonna Palm

651-302-2024 dnlpalm@aol.com

Treasurer: Debby Jones

686-0303 dsj55@aol.com

Programs: Cathie McCallum, Esther Johnson

223-0436 cathiemc@mail.com

484-2666 RNEJOHNSEN@aol.com

Journeys Coordinator: Judy Flatley

223-1037 flatleyjl@msn.com

Webmaster and Directory: Ed Brigden

381-5809 brigden@comcast.net

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

381-5809 brigden@comcast.net

225-2252 cdp225@msn.com

682-2266 sue@gscummins.com

493-4137 garner.marilyn@gmail.com

Newsletter Reporters (chair): Marcia Ross

377-0512 mross377@msn.com

Publicity: Anne Brown

663-3727 abby144@aol.com

Membership/Mentoring/Directory :**Marilyn Garner & Marcia Ross**

493-4137 garner.marilyn@gmail.com

667-4473 kay6568@peoplepc.com

Facebook: Barbara Miller

667-7330 bmill4708@comcast.net

Telephone Tree: Barb Turnbull

493-0787 b.turnbull493@gmail.com

Music: Rosemary Donovan, Larry Clark

669-8818 donovangcd@aol.com

669-5426 clarksmail@msn.com

Store: Debby Jones

686-0303 dsj55@aol.com

Hospitality: Willie Westdorp, Rosemary Donovan

667-6525 willie.westdorp@gmail.com

669-8818 donovangcd@aol.com

Ways & Means: Dick Johnsen, Larry Clark:

484-2666 RNEjohnsen@aol.com

669-5426 clarksmail@msn.com

Set-Up: Larry Slocum

223-9855 larryslocum@comcast.net

“Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime.”

**Mark Twain, *The Innocents*
*Abroad/Roughing It***