



2014  
May

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

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**Next Meeting**  
**May 9, 2014**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Myanmar**  
**Global Discovery**

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**First Christian Church**  
**2000 N Lincoln Ave.**  
**Loveland, CO**

**FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

**It's a Match!  
Or not.**

We were notified April 22nd that Napier, New Zealand accepted the invitation to visit us in August 2015. The disappointing news is that due to illness and death in the Causeway, UK (Ireland) club, they won't be able to host either of their proposed exchanges this year. BUT Kristin Harrison, the new FFI Exchange Planning Coordinator, has proposed Peru as another possible exchange. We had requested Peru in November as one of our choices, and on April 28th, we were notified that Peru is willing to host us! Please consider applying to lead any of these new exchanges.



Marcia Ross and Cindy Paulson have everything lined up for the Kiel exchange that leaves May 21st. Alice Gibson is leading the St. Louis exchange September 21st to October 1st, and Debby Jones is awaiting further confirmation from Brazil.

Our nominating committee (Larry Slocum, Gary Cummins, and Cinda Clark) has come up with a roster of board candidates for the June election. Thank you to the committee for completing this important task. The candidates are: President—Gary Cummins, Vice President—Anita Kopylay, Secretary—Paulette Weaver, and Treasurer—Duane Sharp. We are fortunate that our founding members set up term limits for our board members, giving us the opportunity to introduce new officers with new ideas and assuring the revitalization of the club. If you would like to look at the Bylaws, please let me know. **Please consider this your official notice of the election of officers at the June 13th meeting.**

Thank you to those faithful members who helped with the season's opening of work on our garden in Benson Park, in Loveland. Remember that June 7<sup>th</sup> is the big "All Volunteer Day" at the park, when we will plant new sets and spread mulch. If you have a few spare minutes another day, feel free to drop by and pull a few weeds.

*Marilyn Garner*

## MAY 9TH MEETING—MYANMAR

**Min ga la ba** an auspicious greeting any time of the day in Myanmar.

Dot Cada and Patti Stickler invite you to experience some of the joys of their Global Discovery Trip with Trusted Partners February 9th through March 5th. The welcome they received in four locations exceeded expectations. New friends told them stories of being imprisoned for as long as three years, and of how that affected them and their families. Their visitors were most impressed by the willingness of these women to host a garden supper that took six of them all day to prepare in their outside kitchen. There's much more to see and hear about this trip, so join us on May 9th.



## EXCHANGE TO KIEL, GERMANY & EXTENSION CRUISE/TOUR MAY 21-JUNE 8, 2014



Our traveling group of 18 eagerly awaits this upcoming adventure. Eleven of us come from Northern Colorado, four are from other states (Washington, Nevada, New Jersey and Virginia), and three are from Australia. We're glad to hear from the Kiel ED that spring is arriving there, and the weather is warming up! We'll be holding a final group planning meeting on May 6 at 9:30 a.m. at Cindy's house.

*Marcia Ross*

## APRIL MEETING—WAHID AWAD ON EGYPT

Our guest speaker at the April meeting was Wahid Awad, a CSU PhD student in plant breeding and genetics. He is the Director of Graduate Student Affairs and the Vice President of the Graduate Student Council. Awad is from Cairo, Egypt. He attended Cairo University for two years, and he was a teaching assistant there. He had a scholarship from the Netherlands for a master's degree, and he also attended the University of Florida.

In 2011, Wahid returned to Egypt and had the honor of being part of the Egyptian Revolution. During this time, he worked on higher education research for eight months, got into politics, went to protest meetings, and did some teaching. He thought things were going well after the revolution, and he applied to schools in the United States, one of which was CSU. He had heard that CSU had many international students, and he liked the idea of the mountains and thought it was a good school at which to study plant genetics. He wanted to be an ambassador for his country and to share presentations to schools about Egyptian culture and politics. He wanted to serve as a cultural bridge.



The last King of Egypt was King Farouk I, the country's 10<sup>th</sup> ruler. Its most recent leaders were Muhammad Naguib (1953-1959), Gamal Abdel Nasser (1959-1970), Anwar al-Sadat (1970 until he was assassinated in 1981), Muhammad Hosni Mubarak (1981 until he was ousted in 2011). He wanted his son to inherit his power without an election. Resistance to this inheritance of power led to emergency law, police brutality, fraud and corruption in elections, restrictions on free speech and press, economic challenges, lack of employment, and corruption among government officials. Protests were planned through Facebook for two weeks before the revolution. At first there were only a few thousand protesters, but after police attacked them, millions joined in the protests at Al Tahrir Square, aiming to put the regime down. After 18 days of protests, Mubarak stepped back from power. As a result of the overthrow, Mubarak's government agreed to leave and give the power to the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, led by Field Marshal Tantawi, and the Council suspended the constitution. When an election was held, Muhammad Morsi became the first elected president after the revolution. Unrest again became the norm when the Muslim brotherhood took over, in April of 2013. There were more protests of the requirement that those who serve in the government must be Muslim, and there was an coup called a Day of Action on July 3, 2013. Morsi left under pressure, appointing Chief Justice Adle Mansour as Interim President, and on August 14, 2013, pro-Morsi sit-ins were dispersed by the army and the police. In four hours, 1,000 Egyptian citizens were killed in the streets of Egypt. A figurehead president is now in place, while most think the Minister of Defense, who is in the running to be elected president in yet another election, has the real power.

The new government has not turned out to be as good as originally hoped by the revolutionists, including Wahid. Wahid plans to go back home to Egypt and perhaps be an associate professor at Cairo University or open his own seed company. But Egypt is not the best place for him to be right now, so as long as it is dangerous for him to return, he will seek employment here in the United States.

# APRIL MEETING



## BENSON PARK—FRIENDSHIP FORCE GARDEN

March came roaring in, and we have had some nice April rain and snow showers, so we are expecting good garden days ahead! Our garden plants are showing signs of life, and the weeds, including the ever-difficult bindweed, are ready to be attacked. We are going to try the all-new Bindweed Killer Recipe that doesn't impact surrounding plants!! Now that's reason enough to grab your gloves, tools, and garden bucket and join the crew at the east entry of Benson Park to help bring our Friendship Force Garden to glory!

Please mark your calendars for the following dates this spring:

**May 10: Weeding Session**

**June 7: All-Volunteer Day; Spread Mulch and Plant New Sets**



*Friendship is the hardest thing in the world to explain. It's not something you learn in school. But if you haven't learned the meaning of friendship, you really haven't learned anything.*  
*Muhammad Ali*

## MOUNTAIN STATES FIELD REP NEWS

**Mountain States Region**

6 Clubs

423 Members

The April 27, 2014, Field Rep conference call began with Conference reports from Bob Duncan (Southwest Region), Gordon Carscadden (West Coast Region) and Barbara Macken (Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Region). Successful events included presidents' meetings before conferences, outstanding speakers, Theme Exchange discussions, Legacy Fund Auctions, and visits by FFI executives.

Pallie reported that "It's A Match" information was sent out. Clubs were reminded to submit to Atlanta their proposed and confirmed exchanges.

The **2014 World Conference in Auckland, New Zealand**, has 197 folks signed up and excited. **EARLY BIRD DEADLINE** is **APRIL 30**.

Joy Di Beneditto reported that an outside consultant has been hired to analyze the Strategic Plan Survey that is now being translated. The online survey will pinpoint each member's individual club activities as well as the goals and mission of Friendship Force International. Some members may be contacted by telephone when internet access is not available. The goal is to complete the survey by July, publish it in September, and present it at the World Conference in Auckland, New Zealand, in October. Joy also reported on the Next Generation Council and the May 5th Global Meeting.

Pallie Savoie will be leaving FFI for Lexington, Kentucky, where her husband will be working. They are expecting a second child. Kathy Thomas will now work with Field Representatives.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Salt Lake City. Isn't it great to have this huge extended family showing us how to make a difference?

*Barbara Guilford*

*FF Cheyenne*

## REMEMBER OUR SISTER MOUNTAIN STATES CLUBS

When you have a "hankerin'" to visit other countries and cultures, remember you have many options through Friendship Force. First, be aware of exchanges through our local club. Secondly, check on exchanges through our sister Mountain States Regional Clubs. Then, thirdly, check on exchange offerings through FFI. In each case you would file an application to join the exchange as an Ambassador. Many options!

To learn what other clubs in our region have planned, check out their monthly newsletters for the latest. Visit our website, [ffncolo.com](http://ffncolo.com), click on Regional and then select a newsletter of interest from the Regional Newsletters box, or investigate a website from the Regional Websites box.

If you have an interest in a particular article or a detail from one of the above newsletters, please print or make notes. There will be no archives of past issues; only the most current issue will be available on our website.

Current selections include newsletters from the Denver, the Pikes Peak (Colorado Springs), and the Western Colorado (Grand Junction) clubs. As others become available, they will be added.

*Ed Brigden*

Inbound

Outbound

## EXCHANGE CALENDAR

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4  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2  
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1  
5

**Mtn. States Reg. Conference** May 2-4  
Salt Lake City

**Kiel, Germany** May 21—June 9  
& Cruise/Tour  
Marcia Ross 377-0512  
Cindy Paulson 225-2252

**St. Louis, Missouri** Sept. 21—Oct. 1  
Outbound  
Alice Gibson 310-8848

**Curitiba, Brazil; late August to Sept.**  
Inbound  
Debby Jones 686-0303

**FFI International Conference**  
Auckland, NZ October 14—16  
Early-bird Deadline April 30  
*Registration available online with FFI*

**Peru** November?  
Outbound  
ED Needed

**Harrisburg, Pennsylvania** Fall  
Inbound  
ED Needed

**Napier, New Zealand** August  
Inbound  
ED Needed

**FFI International Conference**  
Vancouver, BC, Canada TBA

## 2014 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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## EXCHANGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU

Kansas City, St. Louis, and Branson, Missouri



We'll be taking a road trip to the beautiful state of Missouri, leaving on the 21st of September for Kansas City, Saint Louis (home stay), and Branson. We'll return to our area on October 1st.

There is a lot of interest in this exchange so if you want to join us, please submit your application and a \$200 deposit as soon as possible. Give me a call if you have any questions, comments, or if you know of interesting attractions around Kansas City or Branson.

*Alice Gibson, Exchange Director*

970-310-8848

Send your application to me at 1012 Akin Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521

### CURITIBA, BRAZIL

### INBOUND

Yes, fellow club members, the exchange appears to be still on. After limited exchange of communications, with dates ranging from August through October, it looks as though we are on for late August to early September. The Curitiba club was to meet on April 15th to finalize dates, travel needs, and number of ambassadors. There could be about 20 ambassadors coming this way to enjoy our Colorado hospitality. As soon as I hear the particulars, I will contact those of you who signed up to be on the committee, and I hope to schedule a planning meeting in early May.

*Debby Jones, Exchange Director*