



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

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Next Meeting November 8, 2013 7:00 PM

CUBA

First Christian Church 2000 N Lincoln Ave. Loveland, CO

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I was disappointed

to miss the October FFNC meeting and a very interesting **program on Switzerland** by Harry Love. Thanks to Marilyn Garner for filling in so adeptly in my absence. I look forward to seeing everyone at our November 8 FFNC meeting!

Ballots for Exchange location choices for 2015 have been tallied and the results forwarded to FFI. See page 2 for more information.



Cindy Paulson and I are busy organizing for an exciting **exchange to Kiel**, **Germany** followed by a **7-day cruise of the fjords** in the North Sea in **Denmark and Norway**. We will soon be seeking a committee to assist with the planning for an **inbound exchange from Curitiba**, **Brazil** in the fall of 2014. Please watch for upcoming details and consider joining in this opportunity.

We are all still concerned about **FF members from Estes Park**, Glenhaven and Longmont who were impacted by the recent flooding. Newer FFNC member Jo McFadden (Glenhaven) sent good news that eleven members of the former FFRM wish to transfer to FFNC. We extend them all **a hearty welcome** and we hope they will join us as soon as the roads are passable. See page 3 for more comments and names.

A hearty "THANK YOU" goes out to Anne Brown and Rona Baer for generously agreeing to host four post-FFI World Conference Ambassadors for a traditional Thanksgiving experience. Two guests will be from Australia and two are from 2 different clubs in Canada. Other FFNC members including the Brigdens will coordinate with the home hosts to develop a fun, interesting four-day experience for our guests. If you can participate from November 26-29, please call Rona or Anne.

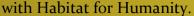
Please take note of the article on *page 5* about our **upcoming holiday party**, which will be held on December 13. We'll gather for a festive dinner, socializing and entertainment at Dorothy's Catering from 5:30-8:45 p.m. Please join us for this special social event!

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NOVEMBER 8 MEETING—CUBA

Join us on Friday night, November 8, to learn about Cuba from FFNC member Paulette Weaver. She and daughters, Kara and Kristen, traveled to Cuba via Mexico in February, 2012 for a U.S. government-approved group visit that focused on organic farming and environmentally friendly agriculture. While there, Paulette soaked up some of the culture and is prepared to share her impressions and photos.

Fluent in Spanish, Paulette served as a Peace Corps member in Columbia in the 1960's and has served as a translator on numerous trips to central and South America, with Friendship Force and





MEMORIA

Ed Jakubauskas Long-time FFNC member and former club president, Ed Jakubauskas died suddenly on October 30. His celebration of life will be Monday, November 4 at 2:00 p.m. at Plymouth Congregational UCC, 916 West Prospect Rd, Fort Collins. Memorial contributions in his name may be made to the Fort Collins Senior Center, 1200 Raintree Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80526.

Sherra Foard Tanner A memorial service will be held on Monday, November 4 at 11 a.m.at Christ Community Evangelical Church, 1301 15 St., Greeley for the daughter of Reda Foard.

Reda and the late Ed Foard were founding members and officers of both the FFNC and FFRM clubs.

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OCTOBER 11 MEETING—SWITZERLAND

In our October meeting we had the privilege to have Harry Love present slides from his hiking trip in Southern Switzerland, bordering France & Italy. He and a friend decided they wanted to go on a hiking trip in the Alps and contacted a company to provide the trip itinerary and leadership. In early July, a total of 9 hikers were set to begin their trek in the Alps. The group was made up of three Americans, 1 Australian and 3 guides.

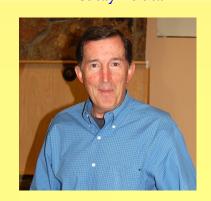
The group hiked an average of 10 miles a day zigzagging through rugged terrain, mountain passes and valleys. Stunning views, beautiful wildflowers, waterfalls, glaciers and wildlife all made for spectacular hikes each day. A typical day started at 8:30 in the morning and ended around 4:30. Their alpine hiking route followed a network of well-marked trails and took advantage of the popular mountain cabins and small inns in the charming villages along the way. While the hikes each day were challenging, reaching the next cabin at the end of the day was met with rich soups, homemade breads, local cheeses and fresh fruit. The cabins usually had a small store, bar, restaurant, bunk-beds with duvets and one shower and one toilet for 40 people in dormitory-like accommodations.

The trip started by train from Geneva to the town of Martigny, then on to the St. Bernard Express to Verbier (ski resort). From Verbier, it was daily 10 mile hikes that ended in Zurich. The last slide in Harry's presentation was a spellbinding view of the Matterhorn!

Cindy Kenna







ESTES PARK FF MEMBERS JOIN FFNC

Eleven members of the disbanded Friendship Force of Rocky Mountains, Estes Park, are joining FFNC effective January 1. Christine Hall joined FFNC earlier in the year. We welcome all and encourage that these new members will become active participants and Ambassadors with us "Flat Landers".

In mid-1996, FFNC members Ed & Reda Foard became founding members of the Estes Park club (FFRM). With our shared history, we especially welcome FFRM members to our club.

Geri Cummings	Estes Park	Don Reeb	Estes Park
Irene Little	Estes Park	Irene Reeb	Estes Park
Stephen Little	Estes Park	Duane Sharp	Longmont
Leonard Martinez	Longmont	Pat Sharp	Longmont
Gene McFadden	Glen Haven	Clayton Volkmann	Longmont
Jo McFadden	Glen Haven	Lynda Volkmann	Longmont

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

Join us for a special home-hosted week May 24-31 with FF Kiel followed by an exciting 7 night North Sea fjord cruise tour visiting ports in Denmark and Norway. We'll also spend three days exploring Hamburg, Germany, making this an 18 day adventure.

Kiel, a major maritime center, is the capital and most populous city in northern Germany. It is 56 miles north of Hamburg, on the southwest shore of the Baltic Sea.



FNNC Exchange with FF of Kiel May 24– 31

Estimated cost for the entire 18 day experience is approximately \$4000. This includes: airfare, transfers,

Hamburg hotels, FF Kiel homestay & FFI fees, cruise leaving from Kiel, 2 cruise excursions, round-trip DIA shuttle, all gratuities, taxes and fees.



N. Europe Fjords Cruise May 31—June 8

Additional costs: travel insurance (required); incidental expenses, host gifts, a few meals, and optional cruise excursions.

FF members may apply immediately by submitting a completed ambassador application and a \$565 deposit check payable to FFNC. Access an ambassador application on our website:

www.ffncolo.com or copy and paste this
link into your browser:

www.ffncolo.comFormsAmbassador Application and Agreement.pdf

Mail application and \$565 deposit to Marcia Ross; 7020 Avondale Rd; Ft. Collins, CO 80516

Questions? Contact Exchange Directors: Marcia Ross 377-0512 mross377@msn.com

or Cindy Paulson 225-2252 cdp225@msn.com

For further information about FF Kiel Club and the region visit:

http://www.friendshipforce.eu/kiel/english/

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EXCHANGE DIRECTOR TRAINING

On Saturday, October 26, an Exchange Director Training was held at the First Christian Church. Nine of our FFNC members participated in this opportunity to learn more about how to facilitate an inbound or outbound exchange as an Exchange Director or how to assist as a member of an exchange committee.



Kudos go to Kay Thomas and Marilyn Garner for organizing this event, to Betty Jean De-Mersseman and Cinda Clark for their expertise as presenters, to Marilyn Garner and Marcia Ross as facilitators, and to Kay Thomas for the great job with logistics. Hopefully all participants came away with a deeper understanding of the budgeting, recruiting, planning and overall organization involved in developing a successful exchange.

Excerpted from Marcia's President's Letter

CLUB DESTINATION PREFERENCES-2015

During the October meeting, those who thought they would likely travel with FFNC in 2015 listed their destination preferences. Those ballots were compiled and Marcia has submitted our requests to FFI. Although not guaranteed, it gives FFI an indication of our top choices. Our first choice was **Northern Ireland**, followed by **Switzerland**, **Sweden and Peru**. We will hear from FFI about potential matches next spring.

Excerpted from Marcia's President's Letter

HOLIDAY PARTY—DECEMBER 13

WHO: All FFNC Members

WHAT: Annual Holiday Celebration

WHEN: 5:30-8:30 p.m. on December 13, 2013

WHERE: DOROTHY'S CATERING in the COLORADO ROOM, Loveland

COST: \$18 PER PERSON Price includes dinner & dessert, one glass of wine or beer (if you wish), unlimited soda, tea or coffee, gratuity and the room rental. A cash bar will also be available.

MENU: Rosemary mushroom chicken OR carved roast beef (select one); salad bar; baby roasted potatoes; steamed mixed vegetables; bread selection; and dessert.

Please let us know if you're planning to attend by signing up on the list and giving a check to Alice Gibson at the November 8 meeting. You can also mail a check to Alice Gibson at 1012 Akin Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80525. The final date for signing up is December 4. Note: no refunds will be granted after December 9.



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CENTRAL EUROPE—FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Bright-eyed and bushy-tailed after a colorful breakfast at the Modra Ruze Hotel, we were greeted by our local guide. She and our E.D. herded us around the corner to our little bus in Wenceslaus Square. More a boulevard than a square, it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site which has been the place of many historical events, demonstrations, and celebrations. As we gawked at the scope of the "square", we proceeded through the city, and crossed over the Vltava River to the Castle District. Here we left the bus and started our walking tour.

Prague Castle is the seat of the Kings of Bohemia, Holy Roman Emperors, modern-day presidents of Czechoslovakia and now the Czech Republic. The triple courtyards of the castle are like Russian nesting dolls. We watched a few tall soldiers taking leave from guarding an entrance, marching proudly away - followed by a short tourist pretending to be one of them. Leaving the castle, we passed the ancient, but still tended vineyards. At the bottom of the hill, we walked past a memorial to victims of 9/11, onto the Charles Bridge. Started in 1357 by King Charles IV and finished in the beginning of the 15th Century, the bridge replaced an older bridge. Originally called the "Stone Bridge," it has been known as the Charles Bridge since 1870. Until 1841 it was the only means of crossing the Vltava River and made Prague important as a trade route between Eastern and Western Europe. Today it is alive with tourists, live music, and souvenir kiosks.

We walked through old Prague to the "Old Town Square" where we witnessed the ringing of the hour of the astronomical clock, dating from 1410. It is the third-oldest astronomical clock in the world and the oldest one still in operation. It whirls and twirls and chimes and is composed of the astronomical dial, representing the position of the Sun and Moon in the sky; the "Walk of the Apostles," a show of figures of the Apostles and other moving figurines including Death; and a calendar dial with medallions representing the months.

Submitted by Patti & Peter Smith, modified by Cinda Clark

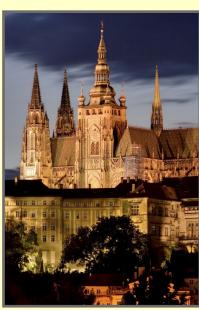
Please join us for the full program in February. It will be colorful and interesting.



Prague Castle by day







Prague Castle at Dusk

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Inbound

Outbound

EXCHANGE CALENDAR

FFI International Conference

New Orleans, LA November 22-25

Incoming Guests Thanksgiving Homestay Nov 26—Dec 1

Gold Coast, Australia (2)

Canada (2) Nancy & Ed Brigden

brigden@comcast.net

2 Kiel, Germany

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May 21—June 9

& Cruise/Tour

Marcia Ross 377-0512

Cindy Paulson 225-2252

Curitiba, Brazil

August

Inbound

ED Needed

St. Louis, MO

Fall

Outbound

ED Needed

FFI International Conference

Auckland, NZ

October 14—16

FFI International Conference

Vancouver, Canada September 11—14

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Refer to our website, <u>ffncolo.com</u> for newsletter issues and information on Programs, Exchanges, Leadership contacts, Upcoming events, etc......

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Mary Riney 330-5248

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REGIONAL REP REPORT—CONFERENCE CALL, OCTOBER 17

FFI has received Exchange Requests for 2015 from Western Colorado, Northern Colorado, Pikes Peak, and Cheyenne clubs. After November 1, clubs will have to compete in the second round of matching by FFI.

Less than a month until the ALL THAT JAZZ CONFERENCE in New Orleans! The schedule will soon go online. The Gala Dinner has 750 folks attending. Don't forget to dress in Mardi Gras Style (bright dress, beads, masks and noisemakers). The Parade down Bourbon Street will begin in the Ballroom and proceed down streets with a Police Escort. We want to make sure our region gets a great big round of applause. The weather is expected to be around 60 degrees—perfect for a parade.

Remember 2014 club charter fees are based on a December 2013 membership count, \$10 for each single, and \$17 couples to renew club affiliation.

ENJOY MOUNTAIN REGION CLUB NEWSLETTERS

Wonder what other nearby clubs are doing? Or what Exchanges each club is hosting or planning? Now you can easily review a newsletter from each of the other clubs in our Mountain Region. Visit our website, *ffncolo.com*, click on Regional and then select a newsletter of interest from the Regional Newsletters box.

If you have an interest in a particular article or a detail from one of these 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.

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

Ed Brigden

OUR FFNC STORE—"PERSONAL SHOPPER"

FFNC STORE manager, Debby Jones, will not be able to attend the Nov. 8 FFNC meeting, but she has generously offered to provide "personal shopper" opportunities for those of who were hoping to make a purchase. Remember: The holidays are coming and Debby can order those beautiful gold-dipped aspen leaf ornaments or jewelry! The store also has in stock several sizes and colors of the awesome packing cubes and a variety of other gift items. If you wish to make a purchase, please call

or email Debby.

Debby Jones 970-686-0303 dsj55@aol.com