



friendship force  
NORTHERN COLORADO



Sue Cummins - Editor & Publisher

October  
2016

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

**FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

As I returned from an Ohio family reunion, I heard we had a great turnout for our September meeting. Many of you, along with several guests, enjoyed a program by Gene Webb, who supplied a wealth of information on the Big Thompson River and our region's water issues. As always, thank you for your support of FFNC activities and monthly meetings/programs. We'll need as many members and guests as possible for our October program with Dr. Bob Tello, who will speak to us on **Israel-Palestine Relations**; 22 members will be gone for the San Diego Exchange and a few more are going on the Japan Exchange. So please join in the fun on Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> and bring a friend!

During our last meeting, Exchange Coordinator, Marilyn Garner, passed out the "ballot" for those planning to travel in 2018. If you DID NOT VOTE, there is a ballot included in this Newsletter. Please share your top four exchange recommendations and return the ballot to Marilyn by OCTOBER 1<sup>st</sup> by emailing your choices or mailing the ballot to ([garner.marilyn@gmail.com](mailto:garner.marilyn@gmail.com) or 808 E. Elizabeth, Ft. Collins, CO 80524). We plan to share the results that will be sent to FFI for the 2018 matching process done in Atlanta.

At our October meeting you'll hear about some exciting plans for our annual Holiday Party. Suzi Gossard and Esther Johnsen have been working on a special evening for us to enjoy. Mark your calendar for Friday December 9<sup>th</sup>, but you'll have to come to the meeting to learn the What & Where for that evening. This party is always a great time for members to gather to share travel stories, renew friendships and eat delicious food... and maybe sip a little wine! Please plan to attend.

This is the time of the year that our President-Elect, Cathie McCallum, will be asking various committee members if they will continue their work or if they would like to tackle a new task. Remember "many hands makes light the work," and part of what makes FFNC function effectively is everyone doing "something". PLEASE, PLEASE say, "Yes, I'd love to help with that project/committee/activity"! We try hard to have several people co-chair committees, which provides for training and continuation as one leaves and the other stays to help a new person "learn the ropes." I appreciate all the support I have had this year, and hope that you will give that same commitment to our next president in 2017.



*Barbara Miller*

**October Meeting:  
Israeli-Palestinian  
Relations  
"Who Are  
These People?"**

**7 pm, Friday  
October 14  
First Christian Church  
2000 N. Lincoln Ave.  
Loveland**

## The Rivers, Ditches, and Reservoirs of Northern Colorado

Our speaker for the September FFNC meeting was Gene Webb, a longtime resident of Loveland, Colorado, who spoke to us about the Big Thompson Canyon and much more. Gene was raised in Ft. Morgan and holds a degree from the University of Northern Colorado. He explained to us that 60,000,000 years ago, the Pacific plates pushed up the Colorado Plateau and the Front Range. We're sitting on top of 4,000 feet of sediment from that event.



The rivers created in this area are of major importance to us today. The Northern Colorado drainage system includes: the South Platte, Boulder Canyon, Poudre, Clear Creek, and Big Thompson rivers. The most dangerous river is the Big Thompson, which is 75 miles long. In the two million years that the Big Thompson has drained through the mountains, the flow got bigger and bigger and created the narrows, the most violent part of the river. That section runs 25 times faster than the Mississippi and is 25 times more roaring than the Grand Canyon.

Before Colorado was a state, other places (including Kansas, Nebraska, California, Texas, and others) bought up water rights while Colorado was still a treeless plain with very few lakes all the way to the Nebraska border. It's difficult now to save Colorado water for Colorado because of these earlier water rights acquisitions. We were fairly isolated until the coming of the railroad.

In 1865, the Northern Colorado Ditch Company created a greener area that allowed certain crops to be grown, but the "dust bowl" draught occurred in 1930-32, and the rivers dried up. The only natural lake in Northern Colorado is Grand Lake; all the others are man-made.

During our area's early development, there was a 90/10 split between agricultural and urban usage. Then factories and suburbs took over, with their greater demand for water. By 1965, 29% went to municipal use. Since 1975, the population of Northern Colorado has grown by 65%, until today in some areas, that municipal use is even higher, with less and less going to crops. Dams were built in Estes Park and downstream on the Big Thompson River. A hydro-electric power dam was built on the Colorado River, and it created Lake Powell, which straddles the Utah/Arizona border; it helps to keep Colorado water for our use.

The floods of 1840, 1976, and 2013 have continued to change the landscape of the Big Thompson Canyon as the river and Mother Nature take back the natural flows of the river.

*Thelma Slocum*

### ***San Diego, Here We Come***

As the summer heat continues to drain our energy, many of our members are looking forward to the October Exchange to San Diego. Some are taking a "road trip," and others are flying. We'll begin with a welcome dinner in a favorite club restaurant. The next morning, we'll be touring the famous San Diego Zoo. The Midway Museum will give us a realistic view of naval working and living conditions as we traverse the various decks of the ship. A guided Walking Tour of downtown San Diego is planned, with a visit to the Library and possibly the Nature Preserve or a unique Guitar Concert. Other interesting activities are in the works. Sunday will be our FREE day so ambassadors may wish to visit Balboa Park for its international food booths and free afternoon performances.

*Barbara Miller*

## October Program: Palestinian-Israeli Relations: Who Are These People?

We are excited to welcome Dr. Robert Tello, a Loveland Internist, who will speak to us about “Palestinian-Israeli Relations: Who Are These People?” While Palestine and Israel have not commanded center stage during this particular political season, relations between the two have long been the elephant-in-the-room in many United States foreign relations discussions. We can expect the issues to continue to be at the root of much of our international policy. It has been nine years since FFNC Board Member Esther Sadeh led an exchange to Israel. So here is your chance to learn more about this complex area of the world.

Dr Tello has had an intense interest in the Middle East for most of his adult life. He served as a Naval Commander in the Persian Gulf War and earned a Bronze Star and Naval Commendation Medal while there. Long a student of Middle East history, he found that it all was brought to life during his posting in Bahrain. Then later, following a trip to Israel, he began an intense study of who exactly are the Palestinians and who are the Israelis. His program, which he often shares with public groups, will cover highlights of that ongoing study.

Bob, like many of us in Friendship Force, holds an international view. He and his wife travel often, and he is involved in humanitarian projects through Rotary and as a physician. He is board-certified in Post-Acute Care and Long-Term Care and currently serves as medical director of Good Samaritan and Green House Homes Long-Term Care Facilities in Loveland. He is past president of the Larimer County Medical Society and chair of the Department of Internal Medicine at McKee Medical Center.

Please join us for the Friday, October 14 meeting to learn just “Who Are These People?” Bring a friend at 7 PM to First Christian Church, 2000 North Lincoln in Loveland. Hope to see you there!

*Nancy Brigden*



**Make your reservations and  
mark your calendars**

Friday, December 9, 2016

6:00-9:00 PM

Adriel Hills Club House  
(north Fort Collins)

Featuring: Festive Food, Wonderful  
Wine, Fun Fellowship, and  
Enjoyable Entertainment!

\$15/per person

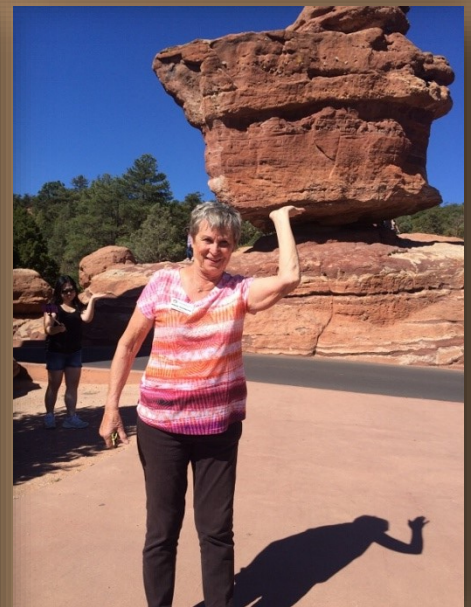
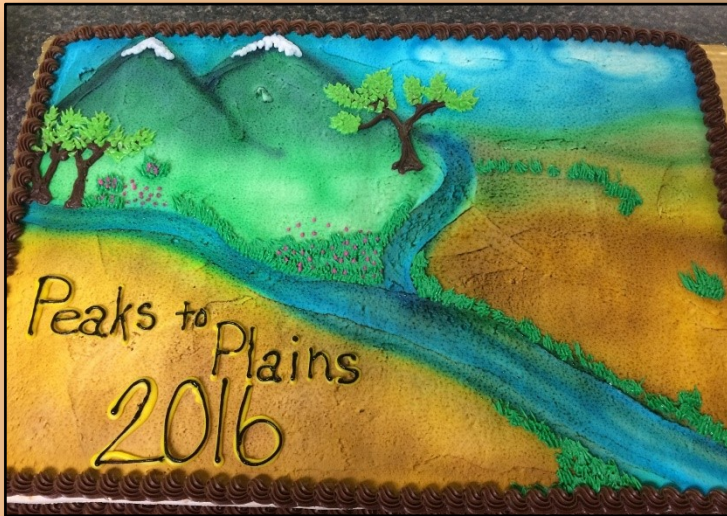
Details to follow!

Sign up at the October or November  
Friendship Force Meeting  
or with Suzi Gossard:

970-412-0691 or

[suzi.gossard@gmail.com](mailto:suzi.gossard@gmail.com)

# Peaks to Plains Ambassadors Enjoyed Colorado



# MORE FUN WITH PEAKS TO PLAINS AMBASSADORS



Some highlights of this creative exchange are presented here with thanks to the Exchange dreamer-upper, Kay Thomas, and all the EDs from the individual clubs involved. Photos have been provided by Cindy Paulson, Kay Thomas, and Thelma Slocum.

## Wayne Smith Award to Esther and Dick Johnsen



Our club was proud to honor and recognize **Dick and Esther Johnsen** with the presentation of the esteemed Wayne Smith Medal during the September 9<sup>th</sup> FF meeting.

The Wayne Smith Medal is an award approved by our board, and presented to FF members who have shown exceptional leadership in promoting the Friendship Force mission: *To promote understanding across the barriers that separate people.*

Dating from 1986, as charter members of FFNC, Dick and Esther have embraced that mission and have promoted and supported our club in a variety of ways. Dick has served as President, Treasurer, and Ways & Means Chairperson (cheerfully selling raffle tickets at each meeting). Esther has served as Vice President and Program Chairperson, bringing us a wonderful array of interesting programs, speakers, and points of view over the years. Both have served on a variety of FFNC committees. On numerous exchanges over the past 30 years, they have traveled as outbound ambassadors, hosted in-bound ambassadors, and served as day hosts and dinner hosts. They are active participants in our monthly meetings, often contributing delicious food, providing support with set up and clean up, and greeting current members and guests with enthusiasm and smiles. They are truly deserving recipients of this prestigious award, which includes a \$500 donation in the name of our club to the FFI Legacy fund.

*Marcia Ross*

Inbound

Outbound

**EXCHANGE CALENDAR**

**2016 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**2** October 2-5  
**0** FFI International World Conference  
**1** Marrakech, Morocco

**6** October 12-17 Outbound San Diego  
 (full, thanks)

May 22-28 Inbound  
 Connecticut  
 Exchange Director: Debby Jones  
 686-0303, dsj55@aol.com

**2** October Inbound  
**0** Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
**1** Exchange Director Needed

**7** Iceland Tour  
 August 12-24  
 Exchange Director: Cinda Clark  
 669-5426, clarksmail@msn.com  
 followed by (if you choose)  
 Friendship Force World Conference  
 August 25-28  
 Manchester, UK

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 Dennis Miller 667-7730  
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**Music: Rosemary Donovan, Larry Clark**

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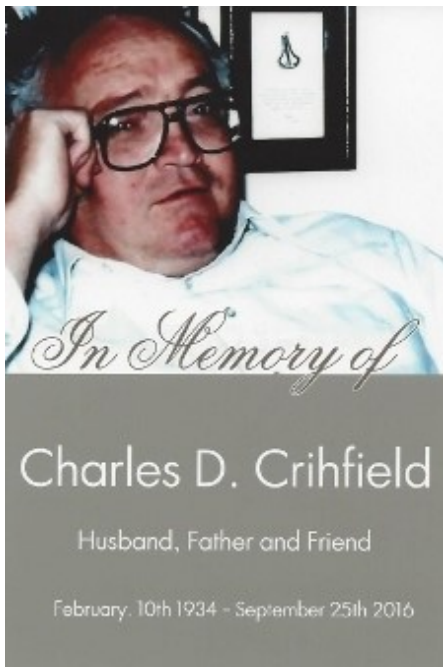
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**Historian: Cheryl Stevens**

231-4392 cheryl2204@msn.com



We have lost one of our long-time and much-loved members, and we mourn that loss along with Helen and the Crihfield family. Charlie and Helen were the first of our FFNC members to be honored with the Wayne Smith Medal, and Marcia Ross wrote the following article about that event in our September 2012 newsletter: The Crihfields have held positions in the Northern Colorado chapter, including president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. They have volunteered their time and resources to organize local and regional events, and to provide transportation and touring for visiting Friendship Force ambassadors from foreign countries. They have opened their home to host foreign visitors and have represented FFNC and the United States as ambassadors to numerous countries. Retired from both the Army and the I.R.S., Charlie was able to secure the non-profit status for the FFNC, and to provide auditing service to ensure our compliance.

When asked why they have devoted so much of their lives to...Friendship Force, they replied in unison, "We believe in the philosophy of the organization." ...and, "we've enjoyed every Friendship Force experience we've ever had."

As Marcia said upon presenting the Medal to the very surprised Crihfields, "The success of the Northern Colorado Chapter has been shaped by their leadership and dedication."

***What the heart has once owned...it shall never lose.***

*Henry Ward Beecher*

## Upcoming Exchanges

Inbound exchanges scheduled for 2017 are Connecticut (May 22-28) and Ottawa, Ontario (early to mid-October). Debby Jones will serve as ED for the Connecticut Exchange, and Paulette Weaver has agreed to be her able assistant. We still need an ED for the Ottawa Exchange, so please contact Marilyn at 970-493-4137 if you would be willing to help us out with this exchange.

AND/OR

### CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

There are some new offerings on the FFI site that might tempt you to gather up a few of our members to join you in an adventure of a lifetime! One of the Domestic Exchanges, called "**Discover the Wild West**," is being planned by of Don Reeb, who is a member of both our club and the Tucson club. And one of our Peaks to Plains ambassadors is a member of the club in Sarasota, Florida, that is sponsoring an exchange titled "**Discover the Arts of Greater Sarasota**."

For those wishing to travel abroad, new exchanges on the site are: FFI's "**40th Anniversary on the Sea**," a cruise to Portugal, Spain and Italy, and another one to Belgium (if you're not up to the biking adventure there) is Passion for "**Painters and Paintings**." Some great choices for "Choose Your Own Adventure"!

*Marilyn Garner*