



September
2013

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

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE**

Upcoming Exchange Needs and Opportunities; Sept. meeting	2
New FFI President/CEO	3
2014 Mountain States Regional Conference	4
2014 Regional Conf. & Remembering Barbara McCauley	5
Regional Picnic with Photos	6
Picnic Photos	7
Exchange Calendar Officers & Chairs	8

FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Our annual regional picnic in August featured delicious potluck food choices, beautiful weather, fun lawn games, the building of new friendships, and delightful reconnections among the approximately 60 in attendance from our club and from FF Cheyenne. Thanks so much to Alice Gibson and Anne Browne for getting all of the details in place, for making sure we had everything we needed, and for organizing a fun event. Thanks also goes out to those who came early and stayed late for set up and clean up and to Dennis and Barbara Miller for bringing the bean bag toss game. Once again, Dorothy (from Dorothy’s Catering) did a wonderful job providing us with delicious barbecue chicken and pork for our sandwiches.

I did bring home some “leftover” items after the picnic. If you are missing a canvas lawn chair (with tray); or either of two knives—one with a black handle, one with a red handle; or a small tan stoneware bowl with flowers inside, please let me know.

Our thanks go to Mary Riney and Marta Aguayo for their service on the Hospitality Committee. They help to ensure that we have snacks, drinks, and necessary supplies available during meetings. Marta will continue on the Hospitality Committee, but Mary has decided to step aside as Rona Baer steps up to complete the year in this role. Thanks to Marta and Mary and Rona, and all who take a turn with various responsibilities.

Speaking of needing help: **WE ARE STILL SEEKING ED APPLICANTS** for both the inbound Curitiba, Brazil exchange (Aug/Sept 2014) and the outbound Kiel, Germany exchange (late May 2014). For details, see page 2.

I’m looking forward to seeing all of you at our fall kick-off meeting at the First Christian Church in Loveland at 7 p.m. on September 13. Please extend a welcoming hand to current members of the The Friendship Force of the Rocky Mountains (Estes Park) who will now be joining FFNC, as their club is no longer in operation.

Marcia Ross

Next Meeting
September 13
7:00 p.m.
Scott Chartier
Colorado Military
Historical Group;
World War II

First Christian
Church
2000 N Lincoln Ave.
Loveland

WE NEED YOU FOR UPCOMING EXCHANGES

We are seeking Exchange Director applicants for both the inbound Curitiba, Brazil exchange (Aug/Sept 2014) and the outbound Kiel, Germany exchange (late May of 2014). For the outbound ED, we would prefer someone who has had outbound ambassador experience, but we will provide leadership support as needed. We were very fortunate to be able to land this European match (which we requested), but we need a good leader to immediately take the reins and begin to get

the details organized. Please contact Marcia by Sept. 6 if you are willing to be considered for either of these roles. We will need a tentative count of which FFNC members are hoping to be considered for participation in the Kiel exchange. There will be a sign-up sheet at the September 13 FFNC meeting. Our club members will have first priority, but we will advertise outside our club if it looks like we won't be able to reach at least 20.

Marcia Ross, 377-0512, mross377@msn.com

SEPTEMBER 13TH MEETING — WORLD WAR II

Scott Chartier will speak to us about World War II and those who fought and sacrificed. As he says, "If you do not know your history, you are doomed to repeat it. I have always been interested in history; if someone would tell a story, I would listen to it. I am a member of an organization called the Colorado Military Historical Group. Our mission is to educate groups and schools about WW II. We also support Wounded Warrior and Honor Flight programs, among others. I try to impress on people the need to read the original documents from the period they are interested in. These original documents and artifacts can give you insight into the culture they come from, and most of all—they are not written after the fact!"

"I had not given that much thought until a WW II vet, Don Weaver, who fought from North Africa to Germany, told me about his kids' history books from the local school. He said, 'That just is not what happened. I was there.' Many of the history books the schools use are written 60 years after the fact by people who cannot understand how horrific the struggle was. I sometimes ask, 'When was the last time you put your life on the line for someone you will never meet, or for someone who may even dislike you because of who you are?' Millions of people did just that in World War II."



Our speaker, Scott Chartier,
with someone you may recognize.

JOY DEBENEDETTO

FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT/CEO

Dear Friendship Force friends across the world,

Hello! It is truly an honor and privilege to write to all of you, the amazingly dedicated members of Friendship Force around the globe. I want to thank you for having me here, and I'd like to express my sincere gratitude to the Board of Directors for electing me to the position of CEO for such a respected and important organization.

I promise to work as hard as I can to fulfill the mission and vision which all of you have endeavored to achieve over so many years — waging peace and friendship worldwide. The effort which has been undertaken over the last 36 years by FF members has been nothing short of awe inspiring; and we will stand on the strength of these noble accomplishments as we make our way into a bright and productive future together.

I've now been here with the wonderful team at FFI headquarters for about a month, learning the Friendship Force ways and all about the incredible work of our entire organization. So many of you have already welcomed me with kind words and generous gestures, and I am overwhelmed by your thoughtfulness even as I am just getting to know you. I hope that over the next year we each have the chance to meet, either in person, on an exchange, or at a Friendship Force meeting somewhere in the world. Also, I would love to connect with you on social media!

Many of you may know that my background is in media, and that I have also spent time as a social worker, a humanitarian press officer, and as a travel agent - with many side activities along the way. My interests are wide, deep, and definitely global. But I have always worked to achieve the “we” in all my pursuits: in what



unites us as a world family, not what divides us.

This is why I believe so very much in the mission of Friendship Force and in the important legacy we are all building for ourselves, our families, our friends and indeed for the future good of the world. I want us to go out and make friendships where we've never been before, and in ways we've never even dreamed.

It's an exciting time to be involved with FFI! And I hope our cooperative work will be as forward-thinking and dynamic as possible, with the sharing of innovative ideas at the core of our efforts. Preparing ourselves and our members for the next stage of our history will take every one of us working together to be successful.

As I've been saying to the team here, I have so many ideas for our future myself, but I am well aware that the strength and vitality of FFI rests with the thousands of FF leaders who shape the future of our organization through their own initiatives and efforts every day. Over time, we will build what is to come from here collaboratively and collectively.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or to any of the fantastic members of our staff in the U.S., Germany and Japan should you have suggestions, questions, or if we can be of help to you in any way.

I look forward to sharing more with all of you soon. But for now, I'd like to challenge us to continue to be a “force of friendship” throughout the globe. With a simple hello, a smile, or a handshake, we can indeed change the world.

With gratitude and friendship, Joy
 EM: joy@thefriendshipforce.org
 M: +404-558-0858 PH: +404-965-4335
 TWITTER: @FriendshipForce
 FACEBOOK/Linkedin: Friendship Force International



“Crossroads of the West”

Invites you to the

2014 Mountain States Regional Conference

**FRIDAY, MAY 2ND
AND SATURDAY, MAY 3RD**

**COME TO SALT LAKE CITY
AND MEET MEMBERS FROM**

Northern Colorado

Greater Denver

Rocky Mountain

Pikes Peak

Western Colorado

Cheyenne

Utah

**Meet our new FFI President
Joy DiBenedetto**

LEARN

SHARE

ENJOY

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - PLAN TO COME

Little America Hotel
500 South Main
Salt Lake City, UT

DETAILS TO FOLLOW

2014 REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN UTAH

Hi Friendship Force Friends,

Attached [page 4] you will find your invitation to the 2014 Regional Conference to be held in Salt Lake City on Friday and Saturday, May 2nd and 3rd, with the option to stay over until Sunday to attend the Mormon Tabernacle Choir Broadcast. I needed to move the date forward one week in order to be able to hold the conference at the Little America Hotel. We are very excited that Joy DiBenedetto, our new FFI President, will be our guest speaker. I hope you will plan to come — our club is working to make it a fun-filled and interesting weekend.

I will be looking for members of each club who have an interesting and informative presentation to share at the conference.

I would also like to request that each club prepare a poster or other type of information which will tell us a little about your club and some of the interesting things you have been doing. We can all learn from each other and sharing helps. [Editor's emphasis]

We look forward to seeing you in Salt Lake City next May!

In Friendship,
Nona Bressler
Utah FF President
don_nona@comcast.net

WE REMEMBER BARBARA MCCAULEY



We are saddened by the passing in August of former FFNC member, Barbara McCauley. Although she would like to have participated more during her membership, various bouts of cancer over the past three years made that impossible. Several of us will fondly remember Barbara as a supportive and fun travel companion during our exchange to the FF clubs in Helena and Great Falls, Montana in 2009. Memorial contributions in Barbara's name may be sent to Pathways Hospice of Larimer County or the Larimer County Humane Society.

Regional Picnic



It was a beautiful day at North Lake Park in Loveland where 58 members of the Northern Colorado and Cheyenne Friendship Force clubs met for a picnic from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on August 18. Following a greeting by our president, Marcia Ross, everyone enjoyed BBQ chicken and beef burgers and, as usual, a delicious potluck provided by all attending.



Our Regional Field Representative, Barbara Guilford, announced the next conference will be held in Salt Lake City on May 2 and 3, 2014, and encouraged us to attend.

Terry Udell, president of the Cheyenne club, said there are still openings for their exchange to New Zealand/Australia in March of 2014.

A total of 31 people from the Rocky Mountain Region will be attending the International Conference in New Orleans. Fifteen of our members will represent Northern Colorado.

After lunch, croquet and beanbag toss games were available. Many people enjoyed socializing with old (and new) friends.



Marian Sparks



PICNIC PHOTOS



Don't you think we need a caption contest for several of these photos?

If you have not yet renewed your Friendship Force membership for this year, please mail your \$35-per-person check to Thelma Slocum, 5025 Blue Stem Court, Fort Collins, CO 80525

Inbound

Outbound

EXCHANGE CALENDAR**2013 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS****Discover Europe** Sept 23—Oct 8

"Jewels of Central Europe"

Vienna, Bratislava, Prague,

Budapest, Krakow

Cinda Clark

FFI International Convention

New Orleans, LA November 22-25

Kiel, Germany May**EXCHANGE DIRECTOR NEEDED****Curitiba, Brazil** August/September**EXCHANGE DIRECTOR NEEDED****FFI International Convention**

Auckland, New Zealand

November

Refer to our Web site, ffncolo.com for newsletter issues and information on Programs, Exchanges, Leadership contacts, Upcoming events, etc.....

PRESIDENT: Marcia Ross

377-0512 mross377@msn.com

VICE PRES: Marilyn Garner

493-4137 garner.marilyn@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Paulette Weaver

356-5068 interweaver@greeleynet.com

TREASURER: Alice Gibson

310-8848 aligibs@yahoo.com

Programs: Esther Johnsen

484-2666 RNEjohnsen@aol.com

Exchange Coordinator: Kay Thomas

278-9054 kthomaslvnd@aol.com

Website: Ed Brigden

381-5809 brigden@comcast.net

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

381-5809 brigden@comcast.net

225-2252 cdp225@msn.com

682-2266 sue@gscummins.com

Publicity: Anne Brown

663-3727 abby144@aol.com

Member Directory: Ed Brigden

381-5809 brigden@comcast.net

Membership: **Thelma Slocum & Cindy Paulson**

223-9855 thelmaslocum@comcast.net

225-2252 cdp225@msn.com

Telephone Tree: Barbara Turnbull

493-0787 b.turnbull493@gmail.com

Music: Rosemary Donovan, Larry Clark

669-8818 donovanged@aol.com

669-5426 clarksmail@msn.com

Store: Debby Jones

686-0303 dsj55@aol.com

Historian: Ken Weaver

356-5068 interweaver@greeleynet.com

Greeting Table: Willie Westdorp 667-6525

Carolyn Crowley 377-1299

Hospitality: Rona Baer 669-3103

Marta Aguayo 377-1456

Tablecloth Mgr: Kay Sheahan 667-4473

kay6568@peoplepc.com

Lge. Drink Containers: Cindy Paulson**Ways & Means:** Dick Johnsen & Doris Rogers

484-2666 RNEjohnsen@aol.com

203-9045 doris.rogers@live.com

Photographers: Cathie McCallum, Ed Brigden, Cindy Paulson**Reporters:** Cindy Kenna, Barbara Miller, Thelma Slocum, Marion Sparks, Brenda Wiginton