



friendship force
NORTHERN COLORADO



2015

September

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FRIENDSHIP FLYER

Fort Collins, Greeley, Loveland, and Surrounding Areas

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



What an active club we are! As I'm writing this, we have begun hosting our Napier, NZ Ambassadors, including FF friends from Japan, Australia, Canada, and Tennessee. A group of our membership just returned from visiting Peru, and we are gearing up to host FF Ambassadors from Harrisburg. My thanks to everyone involved in all of the FF activities that make us a vibrant club and a desirable destination within FFI.

On Sunday, August 23rd, we celebrated our annual picnic with our FF friends from Cheyenne along with all of our current visitors—we enjoyed having 93 attendees. Good food, good conversation, and other planned activities provided a wonderful afternoon. Thank you Marcia Ross and team for excellent planning and set-up.

If you haven't heard, Kay Thomas now has a new brochure for our 'Peaks to Plains' international exchange. I got to see the brochure recently and it truly highlights the great features for future guests that are all along the Front Range. I really think this exchange will become quite popular throughout FFI.

Larry Clark and I are presently researching and networking about some possible new signage that might be good for our club in the future. We are trying to identify a sturdy, easily transportable, easy-to-use sign to identify our FF club that can be taken to activities, FF talks, FFI World Conferences, our Regional Conferences, etc. to clearly and professionally identify that we are the Friendship Force of Northern Colorado. We hope to share some of our research with you soon.

FFI news: while the search for a new FFI CEO continues, four new Board members have been recommended for the FFI Board. More information will be coming about the CEO search as well as information about approved new Board members in the coming months.

With three regular FFNC meetings left this calendar year, plus our holiday party in December, I hope all of you are thinking about who you would like to invite to our meetings to learn more about FF and to meet our wonderful members. You know that they will be made to feel welcomed by your fellow members and that they will greatly enjoy our programs—and then you throw in an absolutely marvelous president—well, how can we miss! See you at the September FFNC meeting—be there or you will be missed!

Gary Cummins

NEXT MEETING:

September 11, 2016
7pm
First Christian Church
2000 N. Lincoln
Avenue
Loveland, Colorado

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM -DIORAMAS



Andres Flores has won many awards for his dioramas on a variety of topics. His grandfather received the annual award for bringing Andres to his Sertoma club last year to do his presentation. He has made presentations to the Honor Flight group as well as different service clubs in the area and has been well received. Senator Kefalas invited and introduced Andres at the Senate floor of the Colorado State Capital where his diorama was set up to view.

His dioramas have been displayed in San Antonio, Chicago, and California. Andres is a junior at Colorado State University, and has a great sense of humor according to his grandmother, who is a friend of Esther Johnsen. He will bring samples of the completed projects and will accompany this with a power point presentation.

ED'S NEEDED FOR 2016

2016 will be another busy exchange year. We plan to spread them apart better than last year to give you a chance to breathe between. I hope many of you will take advantage of our Outbound to Stratford-St. Marys, Canada. They are anxious to show off the wonderful theater resource they have. To get more info on the theater festival, visit this site! www.stratfordfestival.ca

We would like to extend the San Diego exchange with another California club. Santa Barbara has been suggested and contacts made. This would give us a chance to renew the friendships we made in May as well as meet new friends in another club.

We need ED's for San Diego and both Canada exchanges--Inbound from Greater Hamilton and Burlington and Outbound Stratford-St. Mary's. If you would consider being a first time Exchange Director, FEAR NOT! We have many seasoned past ED's who are willing to mentor you. Most of our exchange host/ambassadors have contacted us so we hope to start having details as soon as our ED's can contact each other. Let me know ASAP if you are at all interested in taking on this critical job for one of the exchanges.

--Marilyn Garner, 493-4137

HELP FOR HARRISBURG EXCHANGE

If you haven't already volunteered to help with the Harrisburg exchange, please call Nita ASAP if you can Host, Day Host, give a small dinner, or help with transportation. It takes the whole club to make an exchange a success! Call Nita at 613-2066

THANK YOU

To all my friends in FFNC, thank you for your love and support shown to me and my family during this difficult time.

Barb McCluskey

REFRESHMENTS NEED FOR
SEPTEMBER MEETING. CALL
ROSEMARY DONOVAN IF YOU CAN
HELP. 669-8818

AUGUST ANNUAL PICNIC

FFNC & FF Cheyenne & Regional picnic.

WOW! If you missed the annual picnic, you missed a really fun event with a huge gathering of happy, friendly people and delicious food! Joining about 57 members from FFNC and 15 from Cheyenne were 20 guests from New Zealand, Australia, Japan, Canada and Tennessee. It was truly a global event! Besides all of the wonderful food, guests enjoyed conversation and fellowship, and several attendees had fun playing lawn games. It's always such a treat to meet new friends from around the world. Inevitably when we compare exchange stories we find friends in common from all over the world.

A big thank you goes to everyone who helped with set-up, clean-up, yard games, bringing ice, bringing drinks, hanging our banners, and interacting with our guests. Sue helped to keep the ambassadors and host up to date, Gary did a great job welcoming everyone, and we owe many thanks to Cindy Paulson and Cathy McCallum for taking photos of the group and of the hosts and ambassadors. Also, thanks to those who helped to accommodate our huge crowd by bringing extra tables and chairs, and to everyone for bringing such a wonderful array of delicious food. Luckily, the weather cooperated, too! The hosts and ambassadors enjoyed a leisurely stroll through the Benson Sculpture Garden after the picnic.



Our Ambassadors



AUGUST ANNUAL PICNIC, CONTINUED



Playing games and meeting new friends

NAPIER EXCHANGE

Napier Exchange Enjoyed

As usual, those of us who participated in the Napier Exchange are exhausted but filled with good memories of new experiences and new friends. As first-time Friendship Force host Pam Wolfe said at the Hat Works in Greeley, "You have to join Friendship Force to learn about your own area."

The Magic Bus Tour of Fort Collins, led by the entertaining and knowledgeable Michael Murphy, was the hands-down favorite until all of our ambassadors cruised to the top of Trail Ridge Road, some of them catching close-up views of bighorn rams as good as any I've seen since moving to Colorado in 1990. After that, Trail Ridge Road was named as the favorite experience of every ambassador I asked. Truly, the best things in Colorado are free, except for the gas it takes to get us there.

In our "free time," some of us took our ambassadors to the Corn Roast Festival, some to Laramie, others to Cheyenne. And several ambassadors gave rave reviews on the planned small dinners. Kudos to those who managed to gather small groups together on your own.

The Farewell Dinner location at Mariana Butte in Loveland was a hit, even with a computer-hacking mix-up that kept Elvis from showing up. It seems we may have recruited a new member there among those who observed Takao and Kiyomi, our Japanese guests, performing with their unusual "instruments."

Our able Assistant Director Kay Sheahan helped immeasurably as the clock wound down, especially with meeting planning and small dinner recruiting. And she "continued to march" as an able host even after taking a pretty significant fall in Greeley (she's fine now). Don't worry, future hosts; you don't usually need to sacrifice in that way. Thanks, too, to host and helper Anne Brown, who arranged our tour of Art Castings of Colorado.

Thanks, of course, to all of our hosts, day hosts, and dinner hosts. Some of you volunteered when we had last-minute needs, and many of you were traveling before and after this exchange, yet you managed to step up and give our guests a wonderful taste of Northern Colorado. Day Hosts Stephen & Irene Little; Dinner Hosts Carol Fulkrod, Betty Jean DeMersseman, Dick & Esther Johnsen, and Carol Heitman; and Home Hosts Alice Gibson, Rona Baer, Kay Sheahan, Gary & Sue Cummins, Patti Stickler, Pamela Wolfe, Debby Jones, Anne Brown, Kay Thomas, Marcia Ross, and Rick & Suzi Gossard; you are gracious volunteers who are the heart of the Friendship Force experience. WE APPRECIATE YOU!



The Magic Bus



NAPIER EXCHANGE CONTINUED...



PERU EXCHANGE

Fifteen ambassadors from six different clubs and two countries travelled to Peru in July. We returned to the states on the 29th and all were happy and exhausted. We visited Trujillo and Lima on different exchanges and then toured the southern part of the country with Machu Picchu and Lake Titicacca being the highlights. We all had a marvelous time making new friends and learning the history of the South American continent and the Incan nation.



EXCHANGE AND ACTIVITY CALENDAR

2015 OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Incoming

Outbound

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5

FROM: Harrisburg, PA September 23-30

Nita Koplyay, ED: 613-2066

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

December 11

Johnson's Corner

Anne Brown, coordinator 663-3727

2
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1
6

TO: San Diego+ TBA date 2016
Exchange Director NEEDED!!!

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL CONFERENCE IN GRAND JUNCTION

May 13-14, 2016

FROM: Greater Hamilton and Burlington, Canada June 2016
Exchange Director NEEDED!!!

FROM: Global Exchange "Peaks to Plains" September 12-15, 2016

Marilyn Garner, ED 493-4137

TO: Stratford-St. Mary's, Canada

Early October 2016

Exchange Director NEEDED!!!

Friendship Force
International 800-554-6715
www.thefriendshipforce.org

Marilyn Garner, Editor & Publisher
Photos: Cathie McCallum, Ambassadors
Reporter: Marcia Ross

PRESIDENT: Gary Cummins

682-2266 gary@gscummins.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Nita Koplyay

613-2066 koplyay@comcast.net

SECRETARY: Paulette Weaver

381-8898 paulette.weaver@gmail.com

TREASURER: Duane Sharp

720-218-2299 m6sharp@aol.com

Programs: Esther Johnsen

484-2666 RNEJOHNSEN@aol.com

Exchange Coordinator: Marilyn Garner

493-4137 garner.marilyn@gmail.com

Website: Ed Brigden

352-3829 Brigden@comcast.net

Newsletter Editors/Publishers:

Ed Brigden, Cindy Paulson, Sue Cummins

352-3829 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

352-3829 brigden@comcast.net

Membership: Thelma Slocum & Marcia Ross

223-9855 thelmaslocum@comcast.net

377-0512 mross377@msn.com

Telephone Tree: Cindy Paulson

225-2252 cdp225@msn.com

Music: Rosemary Donovan, L. Clark

669-8818 donovangcd@aol.com

669-5426 clarksmail@msn.com

Store: Debby Jones

686-0303 dsj55@aol.com

Historian: Mary Lou Selch

226-1902 pjselch@hotmail.com

Greeting Table: Willie Westdorp 278-9054

Rosemary Donovan 669-8818

Tablecloth Mgr: Kay Sheahan

667-4473 kay6568@peoplepc.com

Lg. Drink Containers: Cindy Paulson 226-2262

Ways & Means: Dick Johnsen

484-2666 RNEJOHNSEN@aol.com

Photographers: Cathie McCallum, Ed Brigden,
& Cindy Paulson

Reporters: Barbara Miller, Marion Sparks,
Thelma Slocum,

REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2016

“NEW DIRECTIONS” is the theme for the 2016 Rocky Mountain Regional Conference to be held May 13 & 14, 2016 (Friday, Saturday) in Grand Junction. **You should have received an early registration form by email.** There will be 3 downtown hotels available with special room rates for the Conference at \$129.95 per night. Tell the hotel (Hampton Inn, Fairfield Inn & Suites, Spring Hill Suites by Marriott) that you are with the Rocky Mountain Friendship Force Conference

Registration begins on Friday, May 13 from 12:30 pm until 4:00 pm in the Monument Board Room at Spring Hill Suites. There will also be registration at 8:30 am on Saturday morning in the Main Street Room.

There are optional Friday Activities including a Downtown Walking Tour (Art on the Corner and interesting shops) **or** a Wine Country Tour (Drive through vineyards/ orchards and wine tasting **or** Colorado National Monument Tour (Drive along Rim Rock Rd.)

The conference cost is \$125 and includes: coffee, tea and refreshments, all conference sessions, box lunch, evening banquet and entertainment.

For questions or conference registration information, call Sue Palmer, Conference Coordinator at 970-260-4653 alfshouse12@hotmail.com OR Carol DeAngelis, Conference Coordinator at 970-250-6282 cdeangel22@gmail.com

Friendship Force Pledge

As a member of Friendship Force, I recognize that I can make a difference. I recognize that I have a mission and that mission is to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching me. I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and the people of other nations, the cause of friendship, love and peace can be furthered. I can make a difference.