



friendship force Southwest florida

Newsletter April 2016

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

General Meeting with Costa Rica Exchange Presentation

Mark your calendar for...

Friday, April 8, 11 a.m., Fort Myers NORTH Library, 2001 N Tamiami Trail, North Fort Myers, FL 33903 (new location!).

We want to show you a fun slide show about our terrific club exchange to Turrialba, Costa Rica. Special guests, **Lynn Van Horne** and **Kurth Chin Fatt**, are attending from the Orlando Club. Hope to see you there!



Quick Links

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Mission

To promote global understanding across barriers that separate people

Values

*Mutual Respect Cultural
Diversity Cultural
Exploration Service*

Elected Board (voting members)

President
Sue Linehan
1st VP
Michelle Kemps
2nd VP
Beverly Harmon
Treasurer
Cathy Cobb
Secretary

Richard zip lines the Big Daddy Line

Carol Berry



Rafting the white water of Costa Rica



Non-voting Board

Membership/Publicity

Joanne Collins
Michelle Kemps

ED Coordination

Lou Rizk

Email, Club Roster, Sunshine

Cheryle Phelps

Historian

Carla Harms

Webmaster, Club Photographer

Richard Collins

Parliamentarian

Jody Garmon

Newsletter

Joanne Collins

Programs/Fundraising

Entire Board

Belgium Ambassadors have a great time here!

What a great time we had with the Belgian Coast Club from March 8-13. Here are a few words from Dennis Yemma, who did a superb job as our ED.

"We have just finished a successful exchange with the FF Belgium Coast Club. Many ambassadors liked the pace of activities and the time spent with

their hosts. As one ambassador said, "The more time you have with your feet under the same table, the better you get to know each other."

I want to thank Kev (Janiak) and



Belgian ED, Marie Paul Blonde, meets Mayor Henderson



Dennis delighted us with countless special pizzas

Bev (Harmon) for all their help setting up and coordinating events. A great big thanks goes out to all our members for the big turnouts at all events. We had many new members and new faces at our activities - THANK YOU. We can all relax for a while as our new EDs start planning for the next incoming and

outgoing exchanges. I hope to see all involved in those exchanges."

For pictures and a detailed report, check out our website under ***About Us, Exchanges.***

Welcome to New Members

We have 5 new members who recently joined our club, total club membership is 51

- Corrine Larson of Cape Coral

- Patty Tuma of Pt Charlotte

- Jacquelyn Engle
of Punta Gorda

- Penni McDougal-
Wiza of Englewood

- Luvvy Koviak of
Bonita Springs
(rejoined)



Jacquelyn



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2017: Anticipating Canada and Japan Exchanges

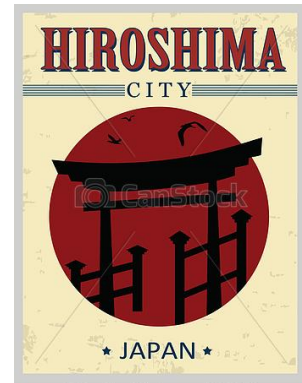


We look forward to **2017** Oubound Exchange to Canada - **Stratford-St Mary** and **Haliburton Highlands**, Ontario. According to their website, Stratford-St Mary says "Few places in Ontario are lovelier or more alive with culture and character than Stratford. It is a charming city nestled in pastoral countryside in Southwestern Ontario. Stratford Shakespeare Festival is North America's largest classical repertory theatre, presenting the works of William Shakespeare and other great writers in its idyllic setting on the Avon River. Nine miles southwest is St. Marys, a charming small town, with many limestone buildings and houses, situated on the Thames River and Trout Creek. Its limestone deposits led to the development of a very well known Canadian cement company, St. Marys Cement. It boasts Canada's largest outdoor swimming pool, the Quarry."

The second club, Haliburton Highlands is a larger club (~ 75 members). They say "Our June/September exchanges begin with a welcome party and usually include the following elements: boat trip on one of our lakes, tour of the local artisan studios, trip to the Wolf Centre and the Fish Hatchery, and a walk along one of our trails through the woods." We received word that this is a **"cooperative exchange"** with the **Tbilisi Club** in the country of **Georgia**. Current suggested date is June 2017. Lou Rizk, Kev Janiak and Susan

Beaudry volunteered to be EDs for this awesome outbound trip.

But there is more news! Regarding our international incoming exchange, the club of Hiroshima, Japan has been approved to visit us in March 2017. Members of our club visited them about 3 years ago. It will be great to return their wonderful hospitality.



Cheryle Phelps and Cathy Cobb volunteered to be the EDs for this exciting inbound trip.

Stay tuned for more information as the details develop.

Save the dates

May 6 **General Meeting with
Bev & Kev presentation
11 AM, Ft Myers Library**

June **TBD - Ichiban's Lunch
downtown Fort Myers**

Aug 14 **Ice Cream Social
Location TBD**

Sept 16-19 **World Conference
Marrakesch, Morocco**

Oct & Nov **TBD**

**Oct 21 - 22 - All Florida Conference, 2-DAY EVENT
Clearwater Suncoast Club**

Dec **TBD - Holiday Brunch Colonial Country Club**



President's comments



Our president, Sue, is currently in the Bahamas having a fun time cruising with Rob and relatives on s/v *Catalyst*. Don't worry - Michelle, our VP, is filling in for her!

So enjoy this quote,

"Certainly traveling for me is more about the human connections we make and not just buildings and scenery. It's not only what we learn about other people, but what we learn about ourselves along the way. "

- Roger Z, OAT

Parting Shot



Our club poses with the Belgians under a Banyan Tree

Do you like our newsletter?

Just email Joanne at eagleswingsj@yahoo.com with any suggestions and stories. Hope to hear from you soon!

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You can change the world, one friendship at a time!

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