



friendship force  
Southwest florida

## Newsletter August & September 2016

Our Website [www.friendshipforceswfl.org](http://www.friendshipforceswfl.org)

### It's Ice Cream Social Time

Where are you going on Sunday, August 14, 3 p.m.?

We hope to see you in Englewood at our newest member, Penni McDougal-Wiza's home.



She and Michelle Kemps are planning some added fun. You'll just have to attend to find out!

Please RSVP by August 7 to Michelle at [michellejeanne@lycos.com](mailto:michellejeanne@lycos.com) Set your GPS to 1947 San Remo Point Drive, Englewood, phone 941-474-0614. Why not carpool with someone who lives nearby?

### Save the Dates

### Quick Links

[FFI Website](#)  
[FFI Exchange Catalog](#)  
[Our Club Website](#)  
[Visit Us on Facebook](#)  
[Order our Club Shirt](#)  
[Join our Club Application](#)

### 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

Carol Berry



Aug 14 Ice Cream  
Social, 3 p.m.

Sept 9  
Myers

Monthly Meeting, Ft

Downtown Library,  
10:30 a.m.

Sept 16-19

World Conference  
Marrakesch, Morocco

Oct 7

Monthly Meeting, TBD

Oct 21 - 22  
DAY EVENT

All Florida Conference, 2-  
Clearwater Suncoast Club

Nov 9

Monthly Meeting, TBD

Dec 4

Holiday Brunch Colonial  
Country Club, 11 AM - 2 PM \$22 pp

**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

**Did you get the email?**

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU  
SEE THE WORLD**

We've received the following email from the Florida Suncoast Club,,,

As you know, the Florida Suncoast Chapter of FFI will be hosting the **All Florida Conference** on **Saturday October 21**. Mair Murphy, our Pres., and myself, Ed Evan, Pres. Elect, have been planning this event with our Committee and have completed a tentative schedule of events (subject to minor change), reserved the location for the general conference (and the Leadership Pre-conference requested by Reg Rep Judi Stratton for the afternoon of October 21) and will be sending an initial announcement to you in

the next few days. We ask that you publish that initial announcement in your newsletter or other communication with your membership so they may "Reserve the Date".

As there is still some flexibility in the actual programs to be offered, subject to availability of speakers for example, I ask that you consider what topic of interest that your Chapter might like to see on the Agenda? We do expect that an FFI representative from Atlanta will be part of the program, Sarasota Chapter will provide some speakers, we're planning a little "fun event", and will have a "Q & A" session, as well as several breakouts to share "good info". Any thoughts? Do please reply to us in any case so that I know you've had a chance to participate.

Please contact any member of our board if you have any feedback to send into their club.

## Where should our club go in 2018?



National is asking for our travel choices for **2018 outbound**. We are allowed 3 options. As President, I would like your feedback by **August 14th** - just email me at [rs.linehan@embarqmail.com](mailto:rs.linehan@embarqmail.com) This is our club trip opportunity so let's make it something that will be well participated in.

Options suggested to date are:

Any of the South American countries, excluding Venezuela  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Wales  
Czech Republic and Slovakia  
Asia (check out available clubs on FFI website)

## Why you don't want to miss our monthly meetings

***From Jo and Jack, who are the featured speakers for our next meeting on Sept 9:***

"We'll share our fantastic FF "exchange week" in Taipei, Taiwan, our wonderful hosts; and many of the activities that they shared with us. Then, our China presentation

will detail the following: The modern and bustling city of Shanghai, the financial and economic hub of China; our 4 day cruise on the Yangtze, including the "three gorges", and the associated dam which delivers awesome hydroelectric power, massive flood control and much enhanced navigation (both accommodating larger ships, and allowing them to go farther upriver).

Other highlights will include the ancient walled cities, "The Great Wall", "The Great Canal", the Terracotta Warriors; and, of course, Beijing, the capital city, and Tienanmen Square."



**And After That...coming up in October 7**

Dennis will discuss his recent trip with FFI to eastern Europe and

"A bit about the area and its people as well as some issues the 5 clubs face in hosting and traveling."

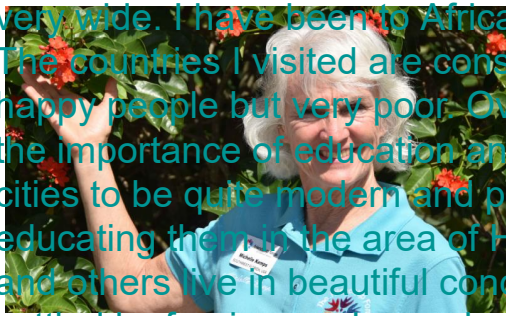


**And on November 9**

Michelle Kemps, Maureen Butt and Joanne & Richard Collins will tell us about their Overseas Adventure Tours of Africa.

From Michelle, "Africa is twice as big as the United States. Presently there are 55 countries. Each country has its own leader and government policies. The diversity between countries is wide. The diversity within each country is also

very wide. I have been to Africa 3 times, have visited 5 countries. The countries I visited are considered 3rd world countries. They are happy people but very poor. Over the years they have recognized the importance of education and progress. You will find the major cities to be quite modern and progressive. The biggest challenge is educating them in the area of Health. While some live in mud huts and others live in beautiful condos. Many of the countries were settled by foreigners, hence have cultural influences examples being England, Germany, Dutch and India. Africa's topography is also very varied from Tropical forest to Desert. My presentation will be a Water Filtering Project in Kenya and my most recent trip.. the desert and dunes of Namibia..and the beautiful modern city of Cape Town, South Africa."



## 2017: Outbound to Canada and Japan Inbound Exchanges

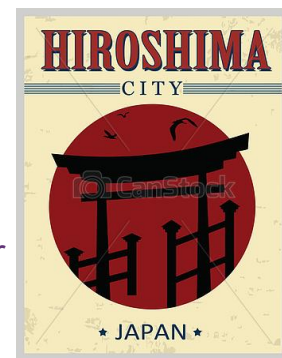


We've determined the Exchange Dates for Canada - **June 10 - 24, 2017** for our Oubound Exchange to Ontario, Canada. We will first go to **Haliburton Highlands** from **June 10-17** and then to **Stratford-St Mary** from **June 17-24**. Lou is currently taking applications. Please get on the FF site (see Quicklinks above) and fill our your

ambassador application. Mail it to Lou Rizk at 9035 Prosperity Way, Fort Myers, FL 33913, but send your \$200 check deposit to our treasurer, Cathy Cobb, 2249 Gorham Ave., Fort Myers, Florida 33907. Spaces are already filling up. You won't want to miss this fun time with your fellow club members.

Regarding our international incoming exchange, we anticipate 18 members of the Hiroshima, Japan Club to visit us in early March 2017.

Cheryle has been in contact with the Ambassador ED (Takehiro Kawasaki and Co-ED (Toshiro Inohara). She learned that we will have 3 married couples - all others are single men and women. More members could be added. They will visit us for 6 nights. (They are not going to any other Florida Club). Cheryle developed a tentative itinerary that she will send them in August. She also sent them the Health and Mobility Checklist so they are



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aware that we need information on any special diets, etc.

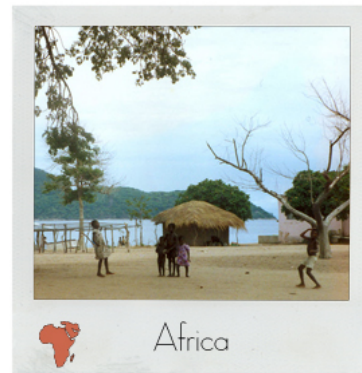


At this point, Cheryle needs a volunteer to set up the **HOME HOSTING and DAY HOSTING!** Please call her at 239-561-9164 or 678-469-8171.

## Inbound Africa Exchange Update

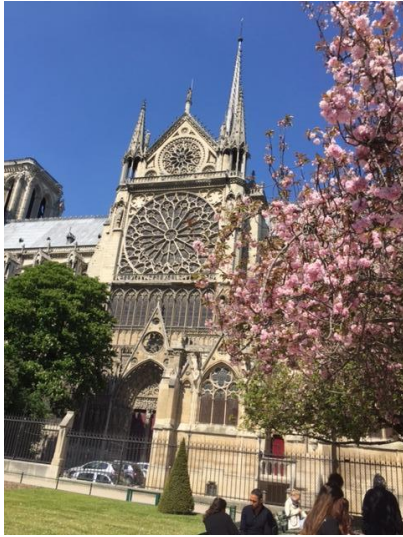
We hope that we will be welcoming Africans here in November or December of this year. The Africans are scheduled to visit Big Canoe Club, near Atlanta Georgia after they visit us.

We've faced some communication issues and are trying to nail down the dates that are acceptable to everyone. We will keep you posted. Judy Carson is the ED with Joanne Collins assisting. Sue Linehan is also coordinating with Atlanta. Stay tuned.



## Where in the World are our Members Traveling?

**Carol & Chris Nasby** emailed me that "we had a great three weeks traveling from Paris to Canal du Midi, to Provence!... A Dream come true!" Aren't her French pictures gorgeous?



### **Bev Harmon**

told me on June 4th that she "just returned from a 10 day trip to the Praiano, Italy on the Amalfi Coast and was a guest of Sibby Yemma,

John Bobko and Judy Foley. We took a ferry to the Isle of Capri and had lots of good vino."



She said that she will be spending 2 weeks with her family in July. "I plan to watch a lot of baseball while there. Go Royals!"

**Maureen Butt** just returned from Africa and afterwards, visited Colorado. She and Hank are currently having fun at their home in the California Bay Area. She's made contact with the San Francisco Bay Area Club and promises to fill us in about their FF club's activities.

**Sue & Rob Linehan** recently returned from a family reunion trip to Nebraska to celebrate her Dad's **104th** birthday. Check out this priceless fun picture of the extended family surrounding her Dad on his tractor!



*Where have you been? Just send me an email and I'll share your travels in the next newsletter.*

## **President's comments**



I had been in touch with the Lincoln president prior to my going to Nebraska and told her that if they had a meeting while we were in the area, we would love to attend.

We were invited to a joint pot luck picnic with the Lincoln and Omaha clubs. They met at Mahoney State park, which is a great place mid way between Lincoln and Omaha. The overcast weather kept us cool and we didn't get rained on, so it worked out well.

As usual with FF gatherings, the food was both bountiful and delicious! It was nice to renew acquaintance with some of the people who visited our club. Wherever you go, you can have a FF friend!



*Three Friendship Force Presidents! From left to right, Omaha's President, Connie Elkins, SWFL President, Sue Linehan and Lincoln President, Joanna Rogers*

See you soon!

*Sue Linehan  
President*

**Parting Shots**





*Lincoln ambassadors who visited us attended the picnic*



*Omaha Members*



*Lincoln members*

### ***Do you like our newsletter?***

Just email Joanne at [eagleswingsj@yahoo.com](mailto:eagleswingsj@yahoo.com) with any suggestions and stories. Hope to hear from you soon!

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**Experience the World with Friendship Force**  
**You can change the world, one friendship at a time!**

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