



friendship force
Southwest florida

October 2016 Newsletter

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

In Memoriam



Our Jonnie - getting ready for white water rafting in Costa Rica

We are sad to announce the sudden death of our friend Jonnie Sprimont. She passed away on Friday, September 16, in her home. She was 74.

Among other contributions, she served as president of a Florida Friendship Force Club. She provided the sound system that our club still values. Jonnie traveled with the club, most recently to Costa Rica where this picture was taken. She and a friend had signed up to travel to Canada with the club in June of 2017, so she was looking at life with enthusiasm. Condolences can be sent to her family at her current address.

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

Non-voting Board

We lose members for various reasons over the years, but losing one of our very special friends suddenly and far too early, is difficult. In memory of Jonnie, think about a contribution to the communication fund for FFI in her name. To do so, go to the web page, www.thefriendshipforce.org and click on *Donate*.

Plan on attending the 25th Anniversary Party which will have a memorial to Jonnie. It is a time to bond together in celebration of the contribution she made to our club and the friendship she offered to us over the years. She can serve as a reminder that we need to pack every wonderful experience into our lives that we can, while we can. She was a model for that in her life. Dedicate yourself to that ideal and let Friendship Force help.

Click on the link, [Jonnie's Obituary and Funeral Information](#)



Come to October Monthly Meeting



Dennis never fails to entertain us!

Friday, October 7
Ft Myer's Library

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

10:30 a.m.

Dennis Yemma is our featured speaker at our next monthly meeting. *Did you know he was personally invited by FFI Atlanta to go to Eastern Europe with some of the FF leadership?* He'll fill us in on the area visited and its people. He'll focus on the issues that their 5 clubs have when hosting and traveling.

After the meeting, we will have lunch together at Gwendolyn's Café, 2100 1st Street #101 (walking distance from the library).

Are you coming with us?

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD**

Are you coming to 2016 All Florida Conference on Sat, Oct 22?



Meet FFI President

This year it's being held in Clearwater, just a quick drive up I75 North. You'll meet the new FFI President, Jeremy Snook, and hear about the great things National in Atlanta is planning. You'll even get re-acquainted with some of the other Florida clubs that you met at last year's conference!

Check out the following for the info including location, driving instructions, etc.

[2016 Friendship Force Complete Information](#)

You can carpool with Joanne Collins (phone 281-543-9018) or one of the other club members who are attending it. Just register by **Oct 1** and mail \$25 to

[Friendship Force Conference Registration](#)

Let's Celebrate our 25th Anniversary!

Did you know that this year is our club's Silver Anniversary?



Yes, we formed in 1991 and were originally known as the Lee County Friendship Force chapter. Let's Celebrate!

Friday, November 18, 11:30 a.m.
Party Room of Lois Bonwell & Susan Beaudry's condo
4260 SE 20th Place, Cape Coral

We are having a free (no cost to you) catered lunch. We've invited some of the original members of our club.

Bring your pins and mementos of your FF trips. Share with us some of your memories.

Since we need to plan for the food, please RSVP to Susan Beaudry, email Copertuz@gmail.com or phone 214-533-6755 by November 11.

Mobile Passport - An App worth downloading!

Richard and I recently tried a new phone app called **Mobile Passport** which helped us skip the long lines at U.S. Customs when we re-entered our country from visiting Africa. It's GREAT !! You've got to try it.

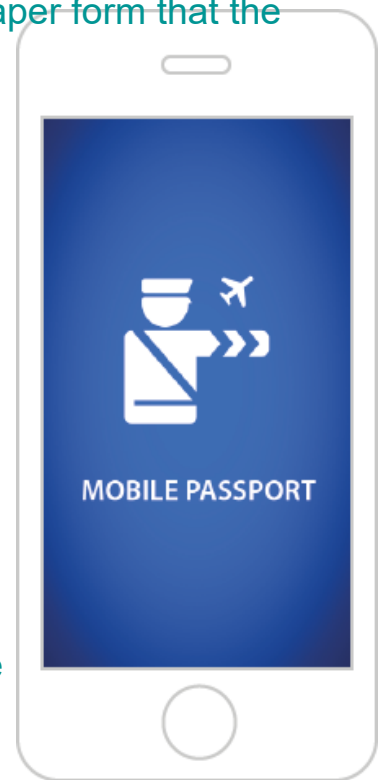
Here's the 4 quick steps:

1. **Download the APP** to your phone and open it
2. **Type in details** from your passport - or scan it with your phone's camera. Then take a selfie. No hats or funny face, please! Guess What? You can add your family to the app. You can do it from home, at the airport or *even on board* the plane. Your personal info is stored on your phone for future use.
3. **Answer 4 questions**. On the long flight home, just pull out your phone (yes, even in airplane mode), open the app, tap **New Trip**, select the airport you are coming into, and answer their 4 basic

questions. You won't need the US Customs paper form that the stewardess is distributing!

4. **Get the receipt.** When you've landed just turn on the phone's WiFi connection, open the app and press a button. The app submits all the info to Customs and gives you a digital receipt with a QR code. **This is your ticket to the EXPRESS LANE!**

When you get to the boarder control area, find the dedicated Mobile Passport Lane. It is **much, much shorter** than the regular lane. If you don't see it, just ask! It's so short that it may be hidden! When your turn comes, hand over your passport to the customs officer and wave your app on your phone over a scanner. Answer a few questions and you're on your way to get your luggage. You'll scan the app one more time after you grab your bags.



Embrace technology, save time and amaze your friends and family as you brag how quickly you got through US Customs!

DOWNLOAD THE APP

2017: Outbound to Canada and Japan Inbound Exchanges

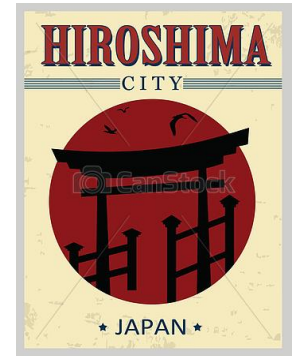


Lou reports that some of the info on Canada changed a bit. The Exchange Dates for Canada are now **June 14 - 28, 2017** for our Outbound Exchange to Ontario, Canada. We will first go to **Stratford-St Mary from June 14-21 (Wed to Wed)** and then onto **Haliburton Highlands from June 21-28**. Lou checked with the Ottawa Club, but they cannot work us into their time

frame. The current thinking is we'll spend a few days in Toronto before or after the two scheduled weeks. Canada has their 150th Anniversary Celebration on July 1, 2017 so that may be a very good time to be in Montreal. He will investigate further and have more information later. The additional time (it seems now) will be each person on their own schedule. If you are interested, please act quickly since this exchange is almost full. Please get on the FF site (see Quicklinks above) and fill out 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. You won't want to miss this fun time with your fellow club members.

Regarding our international incoming exchange, we anticipate 21 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 (mostly women). They will visit us for 6 nights. (They are not going to any other Florida Club). Cheryle developed a tentative itinerary that she sent them in August. She also sent them the Health and Mobility Checklist so they are 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.

Welcome New Members



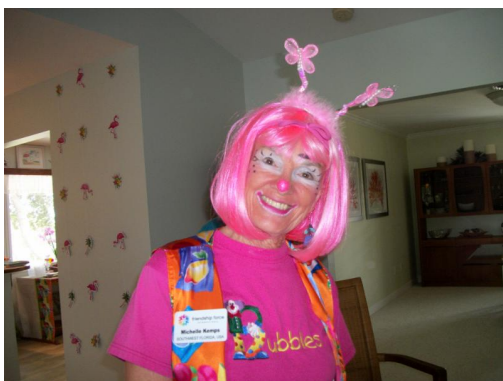
© Can Stock Photo - csp11743816

Welcome, **Betty Botsaris**, from Ft. Myers. Cheryle & Lou brought her to our Ice Cream Social and she decided to join. She lives in Ft Myers.



Summer Fun with our Club

Thanks so much to **Michelle Kemps** and new member, **Penni McDougal-Wiza**. We had a wonderful turnout at Penni's home in Englewood for this unique Ice Cream Social. It was a memorable time because we all dressed up as



Bubbles made our day!

Thanks, also, to Jack Cooley! In September, he gave an excellent presentation on visiting China with the Sarasota Friendship Force Club. He promises to do Part 2 sometime in the future that will detail the Taiwan FF Exchange. Afterwards, we all had a wonderful lunch at Iciban's!

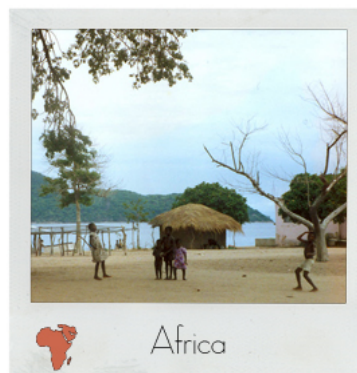
clowns and learned how to make balloon animals!



Socks is one special clown!

Inbound Africa Exchange Update Dec 5 - 12, 2016

Since both Judy Carson and Joanne Collins (co-EDs) for our inbound Africa Exchange were out of town, Sue, our President, picked up the ball! The news we have is that we can expect about 12 members of different Africa Clubs (the majority being from Uganda) from **Dec 5 - 12, 2016**. They may have visa difficulties; therefore, the number of members coming is approximate. We will need hosts and Judy has been working on an itinerary for them. If you'd like to host or be involved in this unique exchange, please email Joanne at eagleswingsj@yahoo.com
More info will be forthcoming!



Where in the World are our Members Traveling?



Cathy Cobb is currently on a Australia Exchange (Perth and Adelaide clubs). She is posting fantastic pictures on Facebook.

Luvvy Kovacik was on a FF exchange in Bogota Columbia in July and will be in Iowa for the quilter exchange in September/October with Cedar Rapids and Des Moines

Jackie Engle just returned from Denver where she welcomed her first grandchild. **Congrats**, Grandma!

Jule & Dennis Yemma toured Ireland and visited German friends.

Maureen & Hank Butt are just back from a fantastic trip to Germany. They, too, posted fabulous pictures on her Facebook page.

Joanne & Richard recently returned from 24 days visiting South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and Botswana with Overseas Adventure Tours.



R & J Overlooking Cape Town, SA



Jule & Dennis in Ireland

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

Save the Dates



Oct 22 All Florida Conference, Clearwater Suncoast Club

Nov 9 Monthly Meeting focusing upon African travel adventures

Nov 18 25th Anniversary Luncheon
Free to all members!

Dec 4 Holiday Brunch Colonial Country Club, 11 AM - 2 PM \$22 pp

President's comments

What a wonderful job Joanne does to keep us all informed in this well-done newsletter! She is just one of the wonderful members of this club who have stepped up to take care of club business. When I look at the faces of people who attended the last two meetings, I am delighted that I feel such a friendship with everyone. We welcome our seasonal members back and we hope to see even more smiling faces at the next events.



I especially want to urge you to attend the regional conference in Clearwater. If it is too far to drive in a day, take advantage of the offer of a home stay either the night before or include that night as well. We know from last year's experience how important it is for us to obtain participation from the other chapters. Let's let this region know that we are an active and interested club!

Happy Travels,

Sue Linehan

Parting Shots



Can you recognize us? At the Ice Cream Social...



Enjoying Lunch at Ichiban's after the September meeting

Do you like our newsletter?

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

Friendship Force of Southwest Florida | 281-543-9018 | eagleswingsj@yahoo.com |
<http://www.friendshipforceswfl.org>
258 Venezia Court
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

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

Copyright © 2016. All Rights Reserved.

Friendship Force of Southwest Florida, 258 Venezia Court, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by eagleswingsj@yahoo.com in collaboration with

Constant Contact® 

Try it free today