



friendship force  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

## September 2017 Newsletter

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

Friday, September 15, 10:30 a.m.

**General Meeting & Canadian Journey Presentation**  
**Fort Myers Library Meeting Room**  
**2450 First Street (near back parking lot)**



*Susan Beaudry*

Our very own, Susan Beaudry, is presenting a slide show all about our clubs's fabulous Canadian Friendship Force journeys to Stratford-St. Mary's and Haliburton Highlands clubs. Twenty of our members participated in this fun-filled two week trip in June 2017.

Hope you will all come to the next General Meeting on Friday, September 15 to hear all about it.

Afterwards, we will have lunch at The Lodge, 2278 First Street, Ft Myers.

*Need a ride?* Just phone a member who lives close to you and carpool together. We look forward to seeing you there.

## Ice Cream Social and Pool Party Update

We had a great turnout at the Corkscrew Woodlands Clubhouse on Sunday, August 13th. Bev led a energetic Water Aerobics class so that we didn't feel guilty eating all the fabulous flavors of ice cream afterwards.

Thanks so much to Bev and Kev for organizing it and for the balloon wayfinders and prizes for the water toss games. Thanks also to Luvvy for taking RSVPs. We had a fun afternoon!



## Where in the World are our Members Traveling?

**Jack & Jo Are on the GO** - The Cooleys had a fabulous August trip to Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, Canada. Jack wrote, "In Nova Scotia we visited Peggy's Cove which is a neat old fishing village; but the main attraction is the light house.



*Jo and Jack, Peggy's Lighthouse*

I believe this is the most photographed lighthouse in the world! . We also went to the Truro River, which flows into the Bay of Fundy (*with 50 foot tides*). We were at the viewing area, a short distance up river from the mouth; shortly before high tide. As the tide came in we observed "a wall of water", about 18 inches high, move upstream and **reverse** the flow of the river! **What an amazing world we live in!"**

**Michelle sent us the following -**



*Can you spot Michelle?*

She and a friend went **rafting and hiking** in the Grand Canyon July 10-26. It was 14 days of Wilderness Camping along the Colorado River. She said "It was THE MOST CHALLENGING trip I have ever taken in my LIFE. No shower or bathroom for 14 days. Day temps were over 100 degrees. Nights were not much cooler.

The river was a "high" of 55 degrees with is enough to freeze your ankles as you try to pee in the river! Hiking was seriously dangerous. I came back battered and bruised. Thank heaven I can cross it off my Bucket List and NEVER have to do THAT again!"



*Michelle in a calmer moment enjoying the scenery*

### **Quote of the month from Jack Cooley ...**

*Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing.*

*- Pele*

*Reminder - If you have traveled somewhere and want to share your story and pictures, please let the newsletter editor know!*



**Save the Dates 2017**eting & Program, 10:30 a.m. Canadian Exchange discussed. See lead off article above.

**October 6-** Meeting & Program, 10:30 a.m. Punta Gorda. Speaker: Michelle Kemps regarding FF Holland Bicycle Journey

**November 3-** Meeting & Program, 10:30 a.m. Punta Gorda. Speakers: Carol & Chris Nasby regarding FF Journey to New Zealand.

**December 3** - Holiday Brunch and Yankee Swap, 11 a.m., Isles Yacht Club. Contact: Joanne Collins

## **Searching for a Treasurer**

Behind the scenes the nominating committee (Lou Rizk and Joanne Collins) are searching for next year's Board Members. Our current board will have served two years and it is time that others step up to new positions. We are looking for someone to be our Treasurer. If you are interested, please contact one of us. As they

say, "It takes a Village" and we need your help in running our wonderful club.



New Lingo to Learn - Friendship Force International (FFI)

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU  
SEE THE WORLD**

*Former Term*

*New Term*

Exchange

= Journey

Exchange Director (ED)

= Journey Coordinator (JC)

Ambassador Exchange  
Director

= Ambassador Coordinator (AC)

Host Exchange Director

= Host Coordinator (HC)

Program Coordinator at FFI

= Regional Support Manager (RSM)

Richard updated our website with the new FFI terminology. Check out **Friendship Force Terminology and Frequently Asked Questions** on the bottom of the first page to get answers to your common questions.

## Update on Brazil and Michigan Journeys

Michelle Kemps and Sue Linehan are working on putting together a great experience in Brazil. We are scheduled for Sao Paulo from April 8-14 and Nova Lima from the 15-21, 2018. Both cities have a different "flavor" so we can enjoy what is unique to each. Following that two week hosting opportunity, we will offer an optional tour which is being organized at

this time. Michelle will give an advanced report at the meeting on September 15th and there will be a tentative schedule and cost estimation. There will be a sign up sheet for those who think they might be interested. By the October meeting we will be collecting applications and \$200 deposits. (Applications can be found on the FFI site "Member Resources"). The application and \$200 is for the two weeks of Home hosting. The optional tour will be discussed at the September Meeting. We are looking into traveling to Iguazu Falls, Rio, and Paraty.



*Iguazu Falls*



**We  
are**

**planning for incoming visit from Grand Rapids, Michigan!**

The journey is on for a fun filled week hosting members of the Grand Rapids, Michigan chapter from Feb. 1 - 8, 2018. Sue Linehan is the JC (Journey Coordinator) for this event and has some new plans for places to take our visitors. Ginny Dooley has volunteered to help Sue, but more help is needed. If you would be willing to help coordinate small dinner parties, host assignments, do a farewell party plan, or help in any other capacity, please contact Sue. Some of these jobs will not need to be done until December or January so you can be back to help if you are a snow bird. If you think you will be available to host, please let Sue know so that we can be sure we can accommodate our ambassadors. *Remember, we will get to see them on our outbound to their club in September of 2019.*

## Member's Recipes

Jo's Carmel Popcorn

2 qt. Pan (no smaller)

½ lb. Butter (no substitutes)

1 C. Brown sugar

½ C. Corn Syrup

Mix the above together and heat to a boil for 2 min.

Add 1 teaspoon soda and stir well (careful - this will boil up very quickly and is very hot!)

8 oz. hullless popcorn (puffs)

Pour over popcorn and mix well until each kernel is evenly covered.

Bake at 350 degrees for 45 min. stirring about every 10 min.

*Jo says, "Hope everyone enjoys a good snack!"*



## President's Comments

It is unfortunate that the club in Brazil that was to visit us in November is unable to make the trip. However, we can be glad that in 2018 we will still enjoy the visit from Grand Rapids in February and get a big taste of Brazil in April.

We will also be asked to fill in our wish list in November for outbound journeys (exchanges) in 2019. Can you think that far ahead?

If so, I would appreciate any suggestions on locations you might be most interested in.

You can go to [www.thefriendshipforce.org](http://www.thefriendshipforce.org) and find the page that is called "2017 Outbound Exchange request form". That is last year's form but if you scroll down to page 5, you can see the listings of the various countries. They are listed as **less available** to **most available**. The number of weeks listed after that country name refers to the number of weeks that are available. For example, France has 5 weeks listed. That probably means, 5 clubs that will host one week each so only 5 clubs will get assignments to France. We get to ask for 4 options and we try to put down some from each category. We can discuss this at the November meeting before the form is required. (Alternatively, scroll down to **Quick Links** below and click on **FFI Journeys Scheduled for 2018 Worldwide** and you will see all the locations.)



*Our President, Sue*

You are highly encouraged to keep talking about Friendship Force to your friends and offer a program to organizations you may belong to. Joanne Collins and I are giving a presentation to a local group that meets monthly to hear about personal travel experiences. It is called Beyond PGI and it is at our local Civic Association. This will be the evening of October 3 at 7 p.m. in Punta Gorda. We signed up some outstanding members lately who will bring much to our club and would like to continue on that trend. We hope to plan some fun lunches and outings after our meetings so that just enjoying each other's company around our own area will be a benefit of membership.

We look forward to getting to see each other after a full summer!

In Friendship,

*Sue*

## Parting Shots



The South Rim of the Grand Canyon - have YOU been there? Photo courtesy of Michelle Kemps



Jack Cooley poses by 35 ft fiddle in Sydney, Nova Scotia

**Quick Links**... help you find info fast!

Just put your curser on what you want and click away! See below links...

[Friendship Force International \(FFI\) Website](#)

[FFI Journeys Scheduled for 2018 Worldwide](#)

[FFI Stories of Friendship](#)

[Order our Club Shirt](#)

[Join our Club](#)

**2017 Elected Board**  
(voting members):

**President**

*Sue Linehan*

**1st Vice President**

*Michelle Kemps*

**2nd Vice President**

*Beverly Harmon*

**Treasurer**

*Cathy Cobb*

**Secretary**

*Carol Berry*

**2017 Non-voting Board**

**Membership & Publicity**

*Joanne Collins, Michelle Kemps*

**Host & Journey Mentoring**

*Lou Rizk*

**Email, Club Roster, Sunshine**

*Cheryle Phelps*

**Webmaster, Club Photographer**

*Richard Collins*

**Newsletter**

*Joanne Collins*

**Historian**

*Carla Harms*

**Note: Programs & Fundraising - Entire Board**

Experience Different Views.  
Discover Common Ground.

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

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