



friendship force
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

October 2018 Newsletter

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

Meeting & Brazil Presentation with South American Lunch
Friday, October 5, 2018 beginning at 10:30 am
Punta Gorda Police & Fire Station Conference Room
1410 Tamiami Trail (Rt 41), Punta Gorda

You are in for a real treat - Michelle will conduct a slide show of the club's Journey to Brazil following the monthly meeting. Afterwards, we'll zip on over to Sue & Rob Linehan's house, 258 Venezia Ct, PG, for authentic South American food. Cost is only \$10 per person. Please **RSVP by Oct 2nd** to Sue at rslinehan@gmail.com so that she will know how



much food to make. Everyone is welcome to dress Brazilian. We know that our ambassadors will wear their Brazilian hats. Should be a fun time!

Welcome New Members



Richard Copeland

I'm a widower, 75 yrs young, living in Punta Gorda Isles since 2009. I was a resident of NJ for my working career owning two houses over that time. I graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University after 7 years of night school. During that time I was drafted and did two years in Germany where I was grateful for my years of German in high school. I worked in electrical construction for twenty years, going from the shop to Exec VP.



I have spent many years doing volunteer work. First was with the URHS (United Railroad Historical Society), where I started working in the yard doing restoration work on railroad cars acquired by the organization. From there, I ran rail trips, fund raisers, raffles and open houses. Prior to moving to FL I spent 3 years as president of the organization. When I moved to FL, I volunteered at the Florida Railroad Museum in Parrish, FL for a year as a car host.

There was an ad in the local paper here for volunteers at the PGPD for fingerprinters. I responded and was accepted. A year later there was an opening to be the Coordinator for the 65 volunteers, for which I applied and ran the group for 3 years. I left to care for my wife and just did fingerprinting which I still do to this day.

I exercise, garden and have built radio control boats and planes; and have flown with a local group for 7 years. I also like classic cars and have been to most museums in FL and hit most of the car shows. I drive an 07 Jaguar XK convertible. My friend Linda Superkoff introduced me to your group, and I look forward to meeting everyone and traveling.



Linda's hometown is Independence, MO. She is the oldest of four siblings, and has one son and daughter and three grandchildren. Her hobbies and interests are piano, Voices of Naples choir member, walking and hiking. As for travel, besides childhood camping in Colorado and the Ozarks, she participated in "People to People" college student travel where she stayed with with families in 9 European countries. She had many return visits to Europe, traveled in the USA, Canada, Caribbean, Costa Rica and Puerto Rico. She is looking forward to getting to know and travel with fellow FF members.

Welcome Aboard!

Here come the Aussies -2019 Inbound Journey

February 24 - March 3, 2019

- * *Will you host?*
- * *Will you prepare a small dinner?*
- * *Will you be a Day Host?*
- * *Will you help us plan the Welcome & Farewell Party?*

Joanne Collins and Bev Harmon are co-chairing this inbound journey. Plan on being with us on the dates of Feb 24- March 3, 2019. Six members of Central Coast club have signed up. Of course, they will continue to recruit ambassadors from other area clubs. Their plan is to come here first, then travel to FF Austin, TX club and finish up with a 3rd club visit to Phoenix, AZ.



Australian Icons

A little about them : [Central Coast Australia Club](#) was chartered in 1986, the first in New South Wales, and the second in Australia. It is a small, but growing club, that currently has 20 members. Central Coast is an urban region in New South Wales, located approximately 1 hour north of Sydney. The region is a network of towns that have been linked in recent years by expanding suburban development. The main urban cluster of the region surrounds the northern shore of Brisbane Water and includes the Coast's largest population center, Gosford. Central Coast has a campus of the University of Newcastle and many theaters in the region.

By the way, our FF friend, Margie Kang, sent us this link which gives you information about many aspects of Australia. Let's read up on it by clicking [Australia facts](#)

2019 Outbound Journeys to Indonesia and West Michigan April and September

Our club members **Carol Nasby** and **Susan Beaudry**, are our Journey Coordinators for Indonesia! Along with our neighboring Sarasota Club, we will visit **Banjarmasin** and **Malang** Trip #15074 in April 2019. There are 8 slots to fill and they've already received many applications. However, if you want to go, you can still be on the "Waiting List" in case others drop out. Just let them know.

Malang is the second largest city in East Java and is a popular tourist destination. Click on [Malang FF](#) to discover more fascinating info about this club of 40 that was founded in 1997 and who has welcomed many FF clubs throughout the world. **Banjarmasin** is known as a River City because it is located at the junction of the Barito and Martapura Rivers. Its population is 625,000 (2010 census). Find out more by clicking [Banjarmasin FF](#), a club of 27 founded in 2015.



Images of Indonesia





FYI - Linda Supakoff and Luvvy Kovacik are our joint Journey Coordinators (FF lingo is "JC"s) for the 2019 Fall trip to **West Michigan Club**. This will be *only a one- week Journey **unless*** we try to coordinate it with other locations. They will be working on the itinerary and will let us know. At this time, West Michigan Club requests us to come the **4th week in September 2019**.

Where in the World are our members traveling?

From Sue Linehan...

Sue spent much of the summer traveling with her sister Peggy. They visited family and national parks from Nebraska, through Colorado, Utah, California, Arizona and Texas. She said she enjoyed seeing the natural beauty of our own country.

The Cooleys stopped in to see the Linehans at Sue's family farm in Nebraska when they were in the area. It was nice for them to compare similar rural life experiences and get to better know one another.



*Sue with Chris Budwine, in Sacramento, CA.
Chris recently traveled with our club to Brazil.*



Sue with sister, Peggy, and niece in Sedona, AZ

From Joanne & Richard Collins...

Joanne & Richard took a Viking Danube River Cruise from Passau, Germany to Budapest, Hungary and then did their own "Rick Steves" guidebook tour of Prague, Czech Republic. They loved the beautiful scenery and delicious food on board. Check out their stories and pictures at [Joanne & Richard's blog](#)



With Cesky Krumlov, Czech Republic in background

From Ginny Dooley and Linda Supakoff...

Ginny and Linda recently returned from quite an international journey - first with the Las Vegas FF club to Indonesia and then on a trip by themselves to Australia. Ginny shares these special pictures with you.



*First stop in Australia was Melbourne Zoo. We wanted to make sure we saw kangaroos. Little did we know that they'd be running wild.
It was 3 weeks of fun fun fun!*



Getting ready for sunset at Ayres Rock. Yes, it was COLD! We went in their winter. The advantage is there are very few people and snakes and spiders were sleeping !

What Are YOU doing next summer?



Friendship Force is having a **World Conference** in Boulder, Colorado. If you are interested in attending, let us know. Perhaps other club members will join you for this opportunity to learn more about our great organization.

Save the Dates



**November 2 - General Meeting & Program on Spain by
Susan Beaudry, Cape Coral Library, 519 Chiquita
Blvd North, Cape Coral**

**December 2 - Holiday Brunch at Isles Yacht Club, Punta
Gorda with gift exchange, 10 am
Make out check for \$20.26 (includes brunch,
tax and tip) to Joanne Collins by 11/25/18.**

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD**

Words of thought and reflection from our member, Jack Cooley...

*The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees the
opportunity in every difficulty.*

- Winston Churchill

The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a man's determination.

- Tommy Lasorda



Jack

President's Comments

Great seeing some of you in September!

October is going to be an exciting meeting for several reasons. First we get to see the Brazilian slide show, the Brazilian lunch at Sue's and even MORE exciting is we get to vote **WHERE** we want to go in **2020**. Many people have emailed me their wishes.

If you have not already, you are welcome to mail me your choices and I will add them to the list. We will be voting for the **"Final Top 4"** at the meeting. See you there!

In Friendship,

Michelle



Michelle models her Brazilian butterfly dress

Parting Shots



Butterfly Garden - Out and About with our Club in Fort Myers



After a movie (Ma Ma Mia), we enjoyed liquor infused ice cream at the Tippy Cow. Very popular was Hoosier Daddy which had vanilla ice cream infused with bourbon, maple syrup, walnuts and caramel. Yummy!

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](#)

[Friendship Force of Southwest Florida Group on FaceBook](#)

[Order our Club Shirt](#)

[Join our Club](#)

2018 Elected Board

(voting members):

President

Michelle Kemps

1st Vice President

Beverly Harmon

2nd Vice President

Ginny Dooley

Treasurer

Jack & Jo Cooley

Secretary

Linda Supakoff

2017 Non-voting Board

Membership

Carol Nasby

Publicity

Kevin Janiak

Host & Journey Mentoring

Cheryle Phelps

Email, Club Roster, Newsletter

Joanne Collins

Webmaster, Club Photographer

Richard Collins

Social Committee

Maureen Butt, Carol Berry &

Bev Harmon

Sunshine & FaceBook

Corrine Larson & Susan Beaudry

Experience Different Views.
Discover Common Ground.

Friendship Force of Southwest Florida, 3772 Peace River Dr, Punta Gorda, FL 33983

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