



friendship force
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

August 2019 Newsletter

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

Summer Ice Cream Social



Sunday, August 4, 2 PM
Jo & Jack Cooley's Home
24464 Riverfront Drive
Port Charlotte, FL 33980

It's cool, it's free, it's fun!

Come and join us for a club
summer tradition of delicious ice cream and conversation.
Phone a friend and carpool to Port Charlotte. Please RSVP
soon to phone 941-889-7767.

Meet Up For Lunch this Summer

Tuesday, August 6, 12 Noon
Village Fish Market & Restaurant
Fishermen's Village
1200 West Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda



Linda Sadler, one of our long-term former members, moved to Pennsylvania a few years ago. She is in town and would like to have lunch with us. She also has some fabulous news - she recently got married and wants to introduce us to her new husband, Marvin. If you want to join us for lunch, please contact Joanne's email by 8/4/19 so that we can reserve a big enough table.

Announcing 2020 In-Bound Journey - Saratov, Russia

Sue Linehan reports that she is in the preliminary stages of communication with the Russian Club. She is trying to ascertain how many ambassadors are coming. Since club members have to obtain *visas*, we may not know until closer to their visit.

FYI - The Saratov Club members are first visiting a Brazil Club and then will come here. Dates are under discussion and have to be coordinated with Brazil, but we hope it will be spring of 2020.

Saratov is a large city situated in the southeast, the *European part* of Russia, on the right bank of the Volga River. It is located ~ 520 miles southeast of Moscow. It is an important cultural, economic and educational center of the Volga region. There are 28 members of their Friendship Force Club.



Scenes of City of Saratov, Russia



Sue Linehan is the co-Journey Coordinator with Maureen Butt, Marla Burkland and JoAnn Robbins. Stay tuned for more details in the coming months.

Russian flag

West Michigan Outbound Journey Begins this fall



Linda
Journey Coordinator

Linda Supakoff, our Journey Coordinator, reports that the following members are going on this exciting journey from Oct 1-7, 2019:

Herself, Joanne and Richard Collins, Richard Copeland, Ginny Dooley, Beverly Harmon, Kev Janiak, Joanne MacPeek, Michelle Kemps, Luvvy Kovacik and Sue Linehan. Unfortunately the McShanes had to cancel out because of some health challenges for Hugh. Some of the ambassadors are going a few days before to explore other parts of Michigan, including a stay on Mackinac Island.

Do you have some travel tips?

Michelle says that in Excel she created a *Generalized Packing List* that she prints off for each trip, and makes a check mark when it is taken care of.

She made a '*To Do*' list for her house, e.g., shut off main water supply, lower thermostat.

She also has a List of *Last Minute* things, e.g.,

contacts, phone charging cord, snacks for airplane. Don't forget to empty water bottle to get through security!

Send me your travel tip for next newsletter!



FFI Announces Changes in Travel Insurance Rates



Experience different views.
Discover common ground.

FFI advised that their travel insurance carrier, Nationwide, changed to a new pricing structure.

The benefits remain the same, but the plan cost is now a *percentage of your total trip cost based upon your age*. They have reworked the payment page on their website to provide directions for figure out the cost.

The page will calculate a quote to purchase the policy. Just as before, the policy is bound when your payment is received. You will receive a credit card receipt and Confirmation of Coverage email following your purchase. **NEW!** You will now be able to increase your coverage from the website. You can make an initial purchase, and if you need to increase coverage when full trip cost is known, you can go to the website, enter in the addition trip cost and check "increasing current coverage" option.

You can use FFI's trip insurance for your *other private trips* outside of FF Journeys - and so can your family members. Every purchase supports Friendship Force. Here is the link for the new travel insurance - [Trip Insurance](#)

Where in the World are our members traveling?



Maureen Butt and Joanne Collins are traveling with the FF of Northeast Ohio on a Journey to Cairo, Egypt with an add-on to Petra, Jordan in late October.

Where are you traveling? Send me an email and pictures so that I can include it in the next newsletter.

Nominating Committee for next year's club officers



What are your two most favorite aspects of our Southwest Florida Friendship Force Club?

Maybe you have more than two favorites? Now let me ask you, would these happen without a 'volunteer'?

The Nominating Committee is ready to help you fit in with the many very easy jobs we need to cover to make this club work. Remember we are a cultural exchange program started by President Jimmy Carter, we are not a 'Travel Agent'. We survive purely by volunteers.

Please call:

Priscilla McShane 502-931-6231 cell

Cathy Cobb 239 939 5187 home or 239 565 8412 cell

Richard Copeland 973 224 5934

or

Michelle Kemps 941 268 8967 cell

All positions for 2018-2019 are listed on the bottom of every newsletter.

2019 needs some NEW NAMES. Any position can be held by 1,2,or 3 members. If you hook up with an established member, you can be easily mentored. Many hands make light work.

Remember, if we can't get volunteers to help, your 'Favorite" might be eliminated.

Sunshine

Lou Rizk is having shoulder surgery in early August. We all wish him a speedy recovery.



Former club member, Eleanor Hill, started treatment this week for Lymphoma. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers.



**Save the Dates 2019 -Events & Meetings
Starting time 10 AM**

September 6 - Program on Indonesia FF Journey by Susan Beaudry & Bev Harmon - Cape Coral Library

October 4 - Program on Egypt Journey by Betty Botsaris - Punta Gorda Police & Fire Station

November 1 - Program on Russia Journey by JoAnn Debaugh Robbins at Fort Myers Library

**December 8 - Holiday Brunch & Change of Officers
Isles Yacht Club, 10:30 am, Punta Gorda**

CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD

**Did you see (click on) [FFI Annual Report for 2018](#)?
Scroll down and look what you see!**



President's Comments

Oh my goodness, it certainly has been a HOT summer ! I understand that many of the northern states housing our snowbirds are experiencing temperatures even higher than ours in Florida.

Those members that are here, don't forget to "Cool Off" at our Ice Cream Social August 4 (2 PM) at the Cooleys. I heard Jack and Jo might have some new fun ideas. Come !!!

We will be back to 'normal' for our first meeting of the season on September 6.

I know it is fun to socialize when we get to the meeting so we have adjusted the times: 10:00 - 10:30 will be the fun socializing time and at 10:30 we will start the Business Meeting. This is by request from several members.

Keep Cool!

*In Friendship,
Michelle*

Parting Shots



June Lunch at Ginger Bistro was delicious fun!

Quick Links... help you find info fast!

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

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

[FFI Journeys Scheduled for 2019 Worldwide](#)

[Journey Application and Agreement Form](#)

[FFI Stories of Friendship](#)

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

[Order our Club Shirt](#)

[Join our Club](#)

2019 Elected Board

(voting members):

President

Michelle Kemps

1st Vice President

Beverly Harmon

2nd Vice President

Ginny Dooley

Treasurer

Jack & Jo Cooley

Secretary

Linda Supakoff

2019 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

Susan Beaudry

Experience Different Views.
Discover Common Ground.