



friendship force
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

December 2019 Newsletter

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

Holiday Brunch & Election of Officers

Sunday, December 8, 10:15 am

Isles Yacht Club

1780 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda

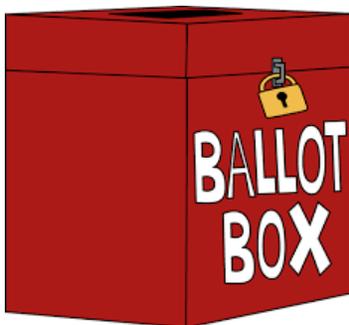


We are looking forward to our **Holiday Brunch** at the beautiful Isles Yacht Club, 1780 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, bring your wrapped gift costing in the **\$10 range** for some holiday fun. We will also have the Annual Meeting which will feature election of officers for 2020.

Need a ride? Just phone one of your FF friends who lives close to you!

In order for you to participate, please mail a check for \$20.26 (per person) by 12/1/19 to Joanne Collins, 257 Lido Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. We must let the Yacht Club know how many are attending.

Club Election of Officers for 2020



Priscilla McShane with help from others announces the following members have agreed to run for club positions in 2020. It is our club tradition that the president serves a 2-year term and it is the hope that others will also serve with her for the entire period. This enables the club to run more smoothly. Election of Officers and Non-voting Board Members takes place at the Holiday Brunch on Sunday, December 8. Voting members nominated are:

President

Joanne MacPeck

1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Ginny Dooley
Maureen Butt
Sue Masters
Richard Copeland

Non-voting Board Members needed to operate the club:

Membership, Club Roster, Email

Carol Nasby and Judy Carson

Publicity

Luvvy Kovacic

Host & Journey Mentoring

Cheryle Phelps and Lou Rizk

Newsletter

Joanne Collins

Web Master

Michelle Kempes

Club Photographer

Maureen Butt

Social Committee - Out & About



Bev Harmon and Maureen Butt
Please volunteer if you live in Ft Myers area - need one more!

FaceBook



Please volunteer (EASY!)

Sunshine



Please volunteer (EASY! Send Get Well cards when needed)

Ice Cream Social (August)



Please volunteer (Easy! Hold Ice Cream Party once in August)

We will also take nominations from the floor. Thanks to Priscilla for being on the Nominating Committee and to everyone who decided to run!

General Meeting & Program

Friday, January 10, 2020 beginning at 10 AM
Estero South County Regional Library
21100 Three Oaks Pkwy, Estero, FL

Join us for the first meeting of the new year at the Estero Library. Our guest speaker is Sushila Cherian and her topic is **CODEPINK**. According to the internet, CodePink is a women-initiated grassroots peace and social justice movement working to end the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, stop new wars, and redirect our resources into healthcare, education, green jobs and other life-affirming activities. Lunch to follow at County Creek Country Club, 21180 County Creek Dr, Estero FL 33938. Payment by Visa or MasterCard only. Set your GPS and call a friend to carpool to Estero.

Inbound Journey - Niagara, CANADA February 25 - March 2, 2020

Cheryle Phelps is the Journey Coordinator for a visit by the Niagara, Canada Club. We expect to host 20 Canadians. **Actually, they have a waiting list of their members who want to come here!** They will *not* be coming as a group on the same flight to Ft Myers Airport; therefore, hosts will pick them up from their flights as needed. Afterwards, they will leave by bus for Sarasota where they will spend their second week in Florida.

The club's members live in St Catharines and throughout the Niagara Peninsula in Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake (NOTL), Lincoln, Fonthill/Pelham, Welland, and Grimsby, Canada. They have an active club with a membership of about 70 people who are all expected to participate fully in their club.



Block off this week on your calendar and be ready to volunteer to home host, be a dinner host or a day host!

2020 In-Bound Journey - Saratov, RUSSIA March 21 - 27, 2020

Sue Linehan, our Journey Coordinator, reports the Russians are coming the first day of spring, March 21st for a one-week homestay here.

They have 21 people on their list and the number coming depends upon whether they can obtain their visa(s). Most of them are adults ranging in age from 30's to early 50's with one senior (age 67). They also asked to bring some teens and possibly 2 children, ages 7 and 9.

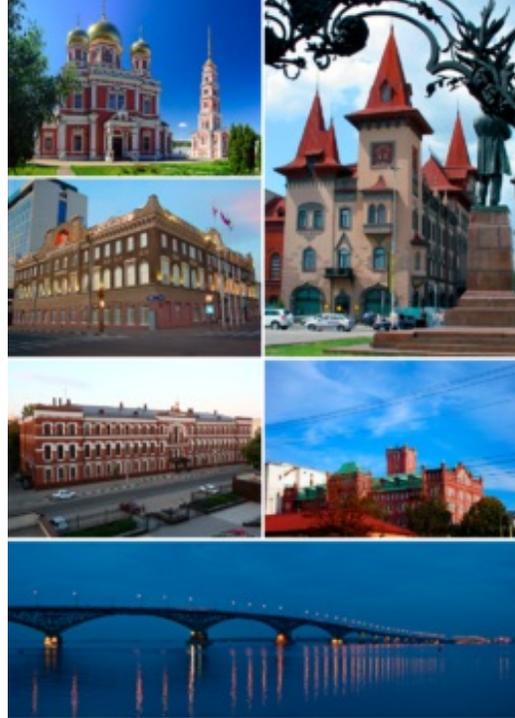
Saratov is a large city situated in the southeast, on the right bank of the Volga

River. It is located ~ 520 miles southeast of Moscow. It is an important cultural, economic and educational center of the Volga region.



Russian flag
Robbins.

Sue Linehan is the co-Journey Coordinator with co-coordinators, Maureen Butt, Marla Burkland and JoAnn



Scenes of City of Saratov, Russia

It's Time to Pay your Dues!

Can you believe the year 2020 is just a few months away? That means it's time to pay your dues. The cost is \$40 per person or \$80 per couple. What a great value for a super club!

Pay Dues



Only \$40!

Make out your check to **Friendship Force of Southwest Florida**. Bring it with you to the Holiday Brunch. That will save you postage. If you can't attend, mail your check by **12/31/19** to our current treasurers, Jack & Jo Cooley, 24464 Riverfront Drive, Port Charlotte, FL 33980.

Where in the World are our members traveling?



Maureen Butt & Joanne Collins recently completed a 18-day Journey to Egypt & Jordan with the FF of NE Ohio Club. They will talk about their adventures at our February 2020 meeting.





Sue Linehan was Matron of Honor last Saturday at her sister, Peggy's Wedding, in Texas. What a beautiful wedding day!

Cheryle Phelps and Lou Rizk took a Viking River Cruise from Budapest to Amsterdam last June. On the left is Oldest Windmill in Kinderdijk, South Holland, Netherlands.



Save the Dates 2020 -Events & Meetings Starting time 10 AM

January 10*

CodePink

February 7

**FF Journey to Egypt & Jordan by
Maureen Butt & Joanne Collins**

**Inbound Canadian Visit
February 25- March 2**

Cheryle Phelps & Lou Rizk - JCs+

March 6

Norway by Carol Nasby

**Inbound Russian Visit
March 21 - 28**

**Sue Linehan, Maureen Butt &
Marla Burkland - JCs+**

April 3

**FF Romania Habitat Build by
Michelle Kemps**

May 1

TBD^

June

Social with Lunch

<i>July</i>	<i>No meeting</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>Ice Cream Social TBD^</i>
<i>September 4</i>	<i>TBD^</i>
<i>October 2</i>	<i>TBD^</i>
<i>November</i>	<i>TBD^</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Holiday Event TBD^</i>

changed for this meeting only to second Friday in January

^TBD = To be determined

+JCs = Journey Coordinators

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU
SEE THE WORLD**



Never thought I'd see the pyramids on a camel! FF made it possible!

- Joanne

Collins

President's Comments



Wishing you all a great Holiday Season!

My two-year term as President will be over on Dec 8th when you elect your new board and committee members. I thank you all for your support over the past two years and assure you that your new President, board and committee members are eager and excited to start their term. We are always open for suggestions, so please don't hesitate to contact your new president with your thoughts and concerns. We are all volunteers and trying our best.

Thank you all for your patience as I called everyone in the Directory looking for people to fill in committee spots and Inbound Volunteer spots. I am proud of our club!

I am sorry to be missing our Christmas Party. I have waited 4 years for my trip to India. This was the only opening they had due to a Hurricane postponement.

Looking ahead we already have our first 4 months of programs set. In January we will have a guest speaker, a member of **CODEPINK. If you have a minute you might want to glance at the internet. It is a great organization that shares many of the same values as Friendship Force.**

In Friendship,

Parting Shot



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 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

2019 Non-voting Board

Membership

*Michelle Kemp*s

1st Vice President

Beverly Harmon

2nd Vice President

Ginny Dooley

Treasurer

Jack & Jo Cooley

Secretary

Linda Supakoff

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.