



**friendship force**  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

## January 2019 Newsletter

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

**General Meeting and Program**  
**Friday, January 4, 2019 - 10:30 am**  
**Estero South County Regional Library**  
**21180 Country Creek Drive**  
**Estero, FL**  
**239-533-4400**



*Marcia, Punta Gorda's newest snowbird*

**Have you ever heard of Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada? Well, it is a new year and it's time for your first 2019 Friendship Force meeting!**

**Marcia Ellis, President of Western Michigan and member of our club will fill you in about her club's Outbound September journey there. You will also be updated on our club's activities and news. So, jump in your car and meet us in Estero, at a new location. Lunch to follow at Country Creek Restaurant, less than 1 mile away. Payment by Visa or MasterCard only. Set your GPS, carpool, phone a friend, just don't miss it!**

**Here come the Aussies -2019 Inbound Journey**  
**February 24 - March 3, 2019**

**There are 10 visitor**  
**ambassadors coming - 6**  
**are from the Gosford,**

Australia region (north of Sydney), 2 from the FF of Winnipeg, Canada, 1 from the FF of San Diego and 1 from FF of Orlando.

Our members who are hosting Australians are: Michelle Kemps, Maureen Butt, Judy Carson, and Bev Harmon. Luvvy Kovacik will host the ambassador from FF San Diego, Ginny Dooley will host the one from Orlando and Susan Beaudry will host mother and daughter ambassadors from Winnipeg, Canada.



*Australian Icons*



**What is planned?** Here is the tentative agenda:

**Sunday, Feb 24** - Hosts will pick up ambassador at Ft Myers airport

**Monday, Feb 25** - Plan to attend the **Welcome Breakfast** at 9:30 AM at Sue & Rob Linehan's home. **\*\*We need club members to provide the food! \*\*** Sign up to bring a dish. We could use casseroles, fruit, coffee cake, and other items. Following breakfast, join a free **Parks that Teach** tour with the ambassadors led by Margie Kang. There will be other surprises as the day progresses. Plan on coming!

**\*\*Small Group Dinner** - need volunteers to host them.

**Tuesday, Feb 26** - 10 AM Ambassadors will visit the Edison Ford Winter Estates. Lunch will be served there afterwards. You can join us for the tour and/or lunch if you wish.



**\*\*Small Group Dinner** - need volunteers to host them.

**Wednesday, Feb 27** - 10 AM Ambassadors will visit the Randell Research Center Pine Island for guided Tour of Indian Mounds. Following the tour, lunch at Sandy Hook Fish & Rib House, Matlacha. After lunch, check out the colorful shops of the area. You are encouraged to join us for the tour and/or lunch and shopping.

**\*\*Small Group Dinner** - need volunteers to host them.

**Thursday, Feb 28** - Free Day

**Friday, March 1** - 10:30 AM Monthly meeting in Punta Gorda. The Australians will give a short Powerpoint Presentation about their area of Australia. Lunch will

follow at Hurricane Charley's outdoor patio. Hope to see everyone there !

**Saturday, March 2 - 10 AM**, Ambassadors will tour ECHO. Join us if you wish.

**4:00 PM, Farewell Party** at Vivante Clubhouse, Punta Gorda. This will be a fun time and we are formulating all the details. Italian food will be catered. Please attend.

**Sunday, March 3 - ~ 8 AM** - Hosts drive ambassadors to Ft Myers Airport for their departure.

***Our Goal is everyone of you participate in this Aussie Visit***

**Let Carol Berry know what you'll do to help. She'll be phoning, texting or emailing you to help us with host dinners and asking what your breakfast item contribution will be for the Welcome Party. Can you be a day host and help out those club members who are housing the ambassadors?**

## Out and About



**The Rosemary Clooney Musical**  
**Florida Repertory Theatre**  
**2268 Bay St, Fort Myers, FL 33901**  
**Friday, Jan 25, 8 PM**

Join us to see *Tenderly*, a new musical salute to this beloved icon. Tunes like *Come On-a-My House*, *Hey There*, and *Sisters* and many more. If we have 10-20 people, we can get a group rate of \$48 per person. Mail checks by Jan 10th to Joanne MacPeak 7513 Cameron Circle, Ft Myers 33912. Questions? Call Joanne at 239-560-4386.

## Meeting for those going on Outbound Journey to Indonesia

Our upcoming journey to Indonesia, Singapore and Cambodia is less than three months away, and we have five travelers from Sarasota, two travelers from Western Michigan and nine travelers from SW Florida going. Sixteen **\*16\*** in all!

On **January 23rd, at 10:30 am** there will be a gathering of many of these travelers at the Punta Gorda Police Station meeting room.

***Travelers, mark your calendars!***

Besides the meet and greet, there will be information about the journey, and a question and answer session. The group will adjourn to lunch in town afterwards. The anticipation is building, and we are excited!!



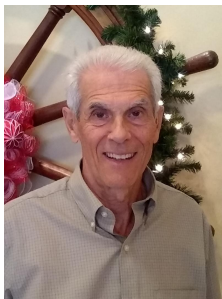
**Carol, Journey Coordinator**

[illegible]

Maria & Dan Burkland from Estero  
Judy McGinnis from Estero  
Joe Pellegrino from Fort Myers  
Phyllis Steele from Bonita Springs  
Berry Foster from Fort Myers



**Dan Burkland**



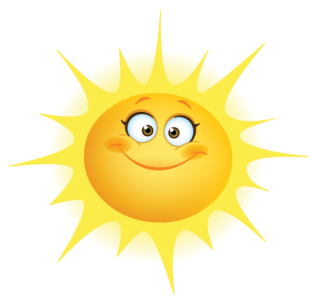
**Judy McGinnis**

## A graphic featuring a yellow money bag with a black outline and a dollar sign on the left. To the right, the word "DUES" is repeated vertically in a stylized, blocky font, with an upward-pointing arrow next to it.

4/10

**FFI** is the international organization of Friendship Force. We all belong to it and as part of it, you should receive their interesting on-line quarterly newsletter that contains information on journeys and leadership news. To subscribe, just click on the link [FFI subscription.](#)

## Sunshine



Get well wishes are sent to Luvvy Kovacik who accidentally fell down stairs while visiting her daughter at Christmas. Hope she is back on her feet soon! If you wish to contact her, just check out the directory that was recently emailed to you! on a flight of oak stairs while visiting her daughter for Christmas. She had to be hospitalized and is currently recovering from her injuries. We hope she feels better soon! If you'd like to contact her, check the directory that was emailed to you recently.

## Where in the World are our members traveling?



*No one travels  
more than  
Maureen!*

Maureen recently returned from Dubai with Linda - and then headed off for a vacation in the Virgin Islands with husband, Hank, returning Christmas Eve to celebrate with friends.

Christmas Eve Brunch in Lou & Cheryle's community.  
Lou won **1st prize** for his outfit.  
Prize was a Golf Glove.  
Check out gold bow on his head!  
*By the Way...*

Cheryle heard from Jody & Russ Garmon, long-time retired members. They sold their home in Cape Coral and moved to a retirement community in Bradenton that is located close to their daughter's residence. Want to drop them a card? New address is





Lou with Bow

1700 21st Ave. W. Apt. 3050  
Bradenton, Florida 34205-5702  
e-mail: randjgarmon@msn.com



Jody & Russ

What Are YOU doing next summer?



Friendship Force is having a **World Conference** in Boulder, Colorado. Did you see the recent email sent out to all FF members? To register, click on **REGISTER NOW**. There is a special **EARLY BIRD discount** if you register prior to 11/30/18. Perhaps other club members will join you for this opportunity to learn more about our great organization. Let us know at the November meeting if you think you might go to it!

Save the Dates 2019



**January 4** - Meeting & Talk on FF Medicine Hat by Marcia, Estero Library

**February 1** - Meeting & Talk on FF Indonesia by Ginny & Linda, Location  
Punta Gorda Police & Fire Station

**February 24 - March 3** - Inbound Australian Journey to us

**March 1** - Meeting & Talk on Danube Viking Cruise by Joanne & Richard,  
Location Punta Gorda Police & Fire Station

**April 5** - Meeting & Talk on Scotland Journey by Joanne MacPeck, Location  
TBD

**May 3** - TBD

**June 7** - Lunch TBD

**August 2** - Ice Cream Social, Location TBD

*Note: TBD means "to be determined"*

**CHANGING THE WAY YOU  
SEE THE WORLD**

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can  
change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."*

*- Margaret Mead*

*What have you learned about the world since you joined Friendship Force?*

**President's Comments**



*Rita and Michelle share a friendship moment*

My wish to all of our members of Friendship Force of SWFL....is **HEALTH**.

Eat right, exercise, and take care of that miraculous machine, your body.

We all love to travel, we need to keep ahead of that grinch that keeps calling us 'old'.

This picture is of Rita from Costa Rica taken in 2007. It was an inbound journey. I forget her actual age, but she was in her 90's and had more energy than the rest of us.

Hope you had a wonderful Christmas and may the New Year bring you special happiness.

We're never too old. Keep well!

*Michelle*

## Parting Shots





*Cathy Cobb and Michelle Kemps at our fantastic Holiday Brunch at Isles Yacht Club*

## 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**

## 2017 Non-voting Board

**Membership**

**Carol Nasby**

**1st Vice President**

***Beverly Harmon***

**2nd Vice President**

***Ginny Dooley***

**Treasurer**

***Jack & Jo Cooley***

**Secretary**

***Linda Supakoff***

**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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