

Join us for Inbound Australia Journey fun!



friendship force
S O U T H W E S T F L O R I D A

March 2019 Newsletter

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

General Meeting and Program
Friday, March 1, 2019 - 10:30 am
Punta Gorda Police & Fire Station Conference Room
1410 Tamiami Trail (Rt 41), Punta Gorda



Cathie & Chris Stone, Central Coast Ambassadors

World Friendship Day is officially recognized on **March 1** each year by the United States Senate and other governing bodies around the world that encourage average people to get to know one another better because, as former U.S. President Jimmy Carter once said, "International friendship is a powerful antidote to war."

What better way to celebrate by coming to hear about Australia from our Journey Coordinators! Cathie & Chris Stone from Central Coast Club will share pictures about their part of the world, Gosford, north of Sydney on the east coast of Australia.

You will also be updated on our club's activities and afterwards, we will enjoy lunch at Hurricane Charley's, 300 West Retta Esplanade. At 2:30 pm, please join us at the Punta Gorda City Hall, 326 West Marion to meet Mayor Nancy Prafke, who will speak to us all about local Florida government. Call a friend and carpool to Punta Gorda for these great events!

2/9

Blue Grass Music
10091 McGregor Blvd
Fort Myers
Sunday, March 24, 2 PM

Palmgrass Presents our Sunday Shows for the 2018-2019 season

The coming shows this Spring are Jan. 6th & Jan. 13th, Feb 24, March 24th, April 14, and May 26th.

Featuring Bluegrass and Acoustic Music

Sunday, December 16th, 2-5:00pm, \$15

Indoors at the Foulds Theatre at Lee County Alliance for the Arts
 10091 McGregor Blvd. in Fort Myers, Florida 33919

Advanced tickets now available at ArtinLee.org/tickets
 or by calling the Alliance at 239-939-2787.
 Limited tickets available at the door. All tickets \$15.

Paddle Faster
Captain Joe & the Bottom Feeders
Hwy41



Meet us on March 24 at the Blue Grass Concert. See above poster for more details! Buy your tickets early!

Our Club's Outbound Journey to Indonesia



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

How exciting for them. We wish them a wonderful safe journey. We can't wait to hear all about it.



Carol, Journey
Coordinator

Do you want to travel to a specific place in the world?

Do you know?

Many of our club members have traveled to specific places in the world with other Friendship Force Clubs. For example, when Richard and I joined our club over 6 years ago, we wanted to go to Australia. Unfortunately, our club was not going there that year.



Joanne & Richard in Australia with FF

What to do?

We got on-line and looked at the Friendship Force International (FFI) Website. It lists all the upcoming journeys for all clubs worldwide. That year, we noticed that the Fort Worth FF Club was going to Perth, Australia. We contacted the Journey Coordinator and applied to go on the trip. He explained that his club could take only 20. If there was room (e.g., he could not get 20 FF Fort Worth members to go), he would consider taking us. That is how we got to Perth, Australia - and what an awesome trip we had!

Check out [Quick Links](#) below for the link to look at all 2019 upcoming journeys worldwide and make your travel wishes come true!

West Michigan Outbound Journey



*Linda
Journey Coordinator*

Linda Supakoff, our Journey Coordinator, instructs everyone who is interested in going on this trip (begins October 1, 2019) to fill out a Journey Application and Agreement Form.



This form is found on the FFI website or alternatively, you can go to [Quick Links](#) at the bottom of this newsletter and find it there.

You should enclose a \$100 check made out to Friendship Force of Southwest Florida. Please apply soon as there are limited spots available.

New Procedures from the Board

As discussed by the board and the club at the February meeting, we are making a slight change in procedures.



From now on the Journey Coordinator (outbound journeys) and Host Coordinator (inbound journeys) will be responsible for collection of money in conjunction with the journeys.

The Membership Chairperson will be responsible for collection of money for club dues. To clarify, these people will be responsible for the names and money collected.

When a substantial amount has been collected, they will total the checks and submit the checks with an amount documented to the treasurer. They need to tell her /him what account they need to be deposited in. Note: The club has 2 accounts - one for general business and one for journey business.

Where in the World are our members traveling?



Joanne & Richard Collins, are celebrating Joanne's special Big 70th Birthday in Barcelona, Spain. They are also looking forward to their 25th Wedding Anniversary on May 7th.

What Are YOU doing this summer?



Friendship Force is having a **World Conference** in Boulder, Colorado. To register, click on [REGISTER NOW](#). At the February meeting, we learned that some of our members are planning to go! Will you join them?

Save the Dates 2019

February 24 - March 3 - Inbound
Australian Journey to us

April 5 - Meeting & Talk on Scotland Journey
by Joanne MacPeck, Estero South County
Regional Library, 21100 Three Oaks Pkwy,
Estero, FL 33928

May 3 - Meeting & Talk on cruising Egypt by
Betty Botsaris, Estero South County Regional
Library, 21100 Three Oaks Pkwy, Estero, FL
33928

June 7 - Lunch TBD

August 2 - Ice Cream Social, Location TBD

Note: TBD means "to be determined"



CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD

"Travel isn't always pretty. It isn't always comfortable. Sometimes it hurts, it even breaks your heart. But that's okay.



The journey changes you; it should change you. It leaves marks on your memory, on your consciousness, on your heart, and on your body.

You take something with you. Hopefully, you leave something good behind."
- Anthony Bourdain

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

President's Comments

We are about to have a fantastic Inbound Journey with Australia.

I am so proud of our club with almost 100% participation.

This picture is of me climbing a Huge Sand Dune in Namibia, Africa. It was a very difficult climb, but I made it.



Sometime life gives us insurmountable challenges, but if we pursue, the finish brings such an emotional reward.

Never give up, always keep trying.

Love,

Parting Shots



Biggest Group EVER for Vietnamese Food in Punta Gorda following our fabulous February meeting. Yum!

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

Michelle Kemp

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

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

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