



friendship force  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

## January 2020 Newsletter

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

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### 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.

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## 2020 New Club Officers

Welcome to our new club officers who stepped up to continue leading our great club into the Decade of the 20's!

President	Joanne MacPeck
1st Vice President	Ginny Dooley
2nd Vice President	Maureen Butt
Secretary	Sue Masters
Treasurer	Richard Copeland

### Non-voting Board Members:

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 <i>Please volunteer if you live in Ft Myers area - need one more!</i>
FaceBook	 <i>Please volunteer (EASY!)</i>
Sunshine	 <i>Please volunteer (EASY! Send Get Well cards when needed)</i>
Ice Cream Social (August)	 <i>Please volunteer (Easy! Hold Ice Cream Party once in August)</i>

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## 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 Inbound 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.

We will be calling you soon to request housing for our Russian ambassadors - so please be prepared to say yes!

We could also use more people on our committee. Would you be willing to volunteer for a specific duty such as - Small Group Dinner Coordinator, take on one or more of the group parties, i.e., Welcome, Farewell, Party at Michelle's house or help coordinate activities?



*Scenes of City of Saratov, Russia*

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

Sue Linehan is the co-Journey Coordinator with co-coordinators, Maureen Butt, and JoAnn Robbins.

## Welcome New Members

We recently had 2 new members join our club. Welcome to Dr. Elizabeth Brown who is a snowbird from New Hampshire and resides in the winter months in Port Charlotte.

Welcome also to Virginia Parsons who lives in Fort Myers.



We are so happy you joined our club and look forward to meeting you soon!

## It's Time to Pay your Dues!

Can you believe that it is the year 2020?

That means if you haven't yet paid your dues, we need you to do so today.

[Pay Dues](#)

The cost is \$40 per person or \$80 per couple. What a great value for a super club!



Only \$40!

Make out your check to **Friendship Force of Southwest Florida**. Give it to our new treasurer, Richard Copeland, at the monthly meeting or even better, mail it today to him at 2400 Aqua Esta Blvd. Punta Gorda, FL 33950.

## Out and About

Do you like outdoor music venues? If so, join Luvvy and the gang in Bonita Springs on Tuesday, January 29 at Riverside Park, 10451 Old 41 Road, Bonita Springs from 7-9 pm for an outdoor concert featuring the "Greatest Hits of the Big Band Era." There is a \$5 per person "suggested contribution." Call a friend and carpool! Questions? Contact Luvvy at 239-789-



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

<i>January 10*</i>	<i>CodePink</i>
<i>February 7</i>	<i>FF Journey to Egypt &amp; Jordan by Maureen Butt &amp; Joanne Collins</i>
<i>Inbound Canadian Visit February 25- March 2</i>	<i>Cheryle Phelps &amp; Lou Rizk - JCs+</i>
<i>March 6</i>	<i>Norway by Carol Nasby</i>
<i>Inbound Russian Visit March 21 - 28</i>	<i>Sue Linehan, Maureen Butt &amp; Marla Burkland - JCs+</i>
<i>April 3</i>	<i>FF Romania Habitat Build by Michelle Kemps</i>
<i>May 1</i>	<i>TBD^</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>Social with Lunch</i>
<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*

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# CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD

Our Board authorized a club donation of \$200 to help needy Cambodians. Here is the "Thank You" note we received:

*We wanted to let you know that we have received your donation to the Shinta Mani Foundation.*

*Thank you so much for supporting families here in Cambodia! The difference it makes in a family's life is HUGE! And you can rest easy knowing that we as a Foundation don't have any percentage that we use toward admin or any of our own costs. 100% goes to families in need or in this case a student.*

*We are gearing up for a new year and are in the process of choosing another 26 students for our training program next year. And we begin on January 8.*

*Again, thanks so much for making a difference in a young Khmer's life.*

*Cheers.*

*Brad Akins | Executive Director | Shinta Mani Foundation  
Junction of Oum Khun and 14th Street, Siem Reap,  
Cambodia*

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## President's Comments

Dear Friends,  
**News Flash!** Marcia Ellis tells me their membership drive in the West Michigan Club was fun and a great success!

I checked out the FF International website and found the plan. You can click this link for all the details:

[How to recruit new members](#)



My hope as President is to follow this Recruitment Plan to do **New Member Recruitment** ... in the first week of April - **A SPRING FLING!**



1. Who is the Club Driver?
2. Add 3 active members on the team.
3. Set the date & place for 'Information Evening'
4. Plan agenda
5. Members bring delicious appetizers
6. Provide Funds for nice invitations
7. All Members: submit 8-10 names of possible recruits..

By the way, I hear there is a new Star Wars movie - haven't seen it... but Friendship takes you to places that last a lifetime!

*In Friendship,  
Joanne*

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## Parting Shot



Everyone had a fabulous time at our Holiday Brunch at the Isles Yacht Club. Check out all the pictures by clicking on this link [Show Me the 2019 Holiday Brunch Pictures](#)

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**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 2020 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](#)

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### 2020 Elected Board

(voting members):

**President**

*Joanne MacPeek*

**1st Vice President**

*Ginny Dooley*

**2nd Vice President**

*Maureen Butt*

**Treasurer**

*Richard Copeland*

**Secretary**

*Sue Masters*

### 2020 Non-voting Board

**Membership**

*Carol Nasby & Judy Carson*

**Publicity**

*Luvvy Koviak*

**Host & Journey Mentoring**

*Cheryle Phelps*

**Newsletter**

*Joanne Collins*

**Webmaster**

*Michelle Kemp*

**Social Committee**

*Beverly Harmon & Maureen Butt*

**Club Photographer**

*Maureen Butt*

**Sunshine, FaceBook, Ice Cream Social**

*Open position opportunities*

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Experience Different Views.

Discover Common Ground.