



friendship force
Southwest florida

Newsletter February 2015

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

It's a Match! Turriabla, Costa Rica in 2016

Friendship Force

Mission

*To promote global
understanding across
barriers that separate
people*

Values

*Mutual Respect
Cultural Diversity
Cultural Exploration
Service*

Tell Your Friends

*Your friends and the
public are always*



In March 2014 we hosted the Turrialba, Costa Rica Club. Since we enjoyed their visit so much, we requested a reciprocal exchange. We were recently notified that we are approved to visit them in 2016. If you would like to be the Exchange Director (ED) for this trip, please let us know soon. The Board will select the ED in the next few months. This is sure to be a popular destination!

Turrialba's Friendship Force was started in 1999 by retired educators. It is a small happy group that organizes activities including tours to places representative of its countryside and national parks. The club seeks to familiarize us with their culture, social activities and local indigenous dishes.

welcome at our meetings. Keep your friends informed about our happenings by forwarding this newsletter to them.

Elected Board (voting members)

President

Joanne Collins

1st VP

Dennis Yemma

2nd VP

Sibby Yemma

Treasurer

Rob Linehan

Secretary

Julie Yemma

Non-voting Board

Membership

ED Coordination

Sue Linehan

Email, Club Roster, Sunshine

Cheryle Phelps

Historian

Carla Harms

Club Store

Pam LaFontaine

Webmaster, Club

Photographer

Richard Collins

Parliamentarian

Jody Garmon

Newsletter

Exchange Director Club Policy Approved

Joanne Collins
*Publicity, Programs
Fundraising*
Entire Board

At the January meeting, the club approved a new Exchange Director (ED) Policy. It is as follows:

Exchange Director will be reimbursed for FFSWFL Outbound Exchanges by **summing Part 1 and 2**:

Part 1 - Up to \$200 for the cost of homestays to be divided equally among the outbound ambassadors participating in the exchange excluding the ED

Example 1

15 Ambassadors each paying \$100 home stay fee
 $\$100/15 = \6 per ambassador payable to the ED

Example 2

15 Ambassadors each paying \$250 home stay fee
 $\$200 \text{ maximum} / 15 = \13.33 per ambassador payable to the ED

Part 2 - The FFI International Fee for the ED will be reimbursed by the ambassadors by dividing the fee by the number of ambassadors that the receiving club can host.

Example 1

FFI fee for ED = \$150 - 15 Ambassadors going;
receiving club can host 15 - $\$150/15 = \10 per ambassador payable to ED

Example 2

FFI fee for ED = \$150 - 15 Ambassadors going;
receiving club can host 25 - $\$150/25 = \6 per ambassador payable to ED

Celebrate World Friendship Day with us at the Yemma's home

Join us on **Sunday, March 1st, 2 p.m.**, Yemma's home, 1525 Sautern Drive, Ft Myers. We have ham and chicken left from our recent exchange. Bring a veggie or a dessert. Club provides meat, drinks and plastic ware! We will have a short general meeting followed by food, pictures of the Denver Exchange and visiting together. Let Dennis and Jule know that you are coming

by calling or emailing them by **2/27/15** so that they know how many to expect.
 - phone 239-437-0035, email dennisyemma@aol.com *Hope to see you there!*



Don't miss out on our club activities. Save the following dates on your calendar

Mar 1 - World Friendship Force Day and General Meeting - 2 p.m. Yemma's home

April 10 - 11 AM - General Meeting at Ft Myers Library. Program *TSA Speaker*

May 12-26 - Club's Belgium & Germany Outbound Exchange

June 19 - 11 AM - General Meeting at Punta Gorda Firehouse, Program *Traveling Belgium and Germany with our FF club* - speakers are our club ambassadors

July - Summer Break

Aug 9 - Ice Cream Social, 3 p.m. - **need location**, if you would like to volunteer your home, please let us know soon!

Aug 28-31 - World Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

Sept 18 - 11 AM - General Meeting at Ft Myers Library Program *Traveling Guatemala with FF*, speaker is Sue Linehan

Oct 10 - All Florida Conference hosted by our club at Whiskey Creek Clubhouse

Nov 13 - 11 AM - General Meeting at Ft Myers Library, Program *Traveling Western Australia with FF Fort Worth*, speakers are Joanne & Richard Collins

Late Nov - Nominations for incoming board for 2016

Dec 13 - Tentative date for Holiday Party/Brunch, location TBD

**Denver, Colorado Inbound Exchange
 February 2 - 7, 2015**



What a great group of people we had from Denver! The only sad part is not getting to know everyone more personally. I was very happy to see so many of our members who were not hosting, helping out or enjoying the exchange. It was nice to see our newest member, *Joanne MacPeck*, at a few of the events. Another new member, Carol Nasby, came through to host Cassandra Wooden's guest for the last two days, when Cassandra had to leave unexpectedly for a funeral. New members, Dianne Van Beek and her husband, Larry, also day hosted. Dianne and Carol sure helped me out with the lunch at our home, and clean up afterward. It really allowed me to play hostess. As I thought of things, they were already being taken care of. I came back to clean dishes and food put away.

Do you guys hire out?

Lou and Cheryle did not host for the first time **ever** but certainly took on a lot of the activities with the Welcome Lunch, the drive to the Everglades and help at the Farewell Dinner. Thanks so much!

Judy Carson put it all together at the Farewell Party. What a convenient venue for events. Not only is Judy a treasure but her community is so cooperative and the people at the gates could not be more friendly.

What a great place!

Of course, one cannot say enough about Cecilia and the great program that was put together for our ambassadors. Her committee with Jonnie and Gloria and Carla, and Phyllis worked together to create a great time. Dinner hosts were great! Judy Carson was ours - she added to her already busy schedule to help everything turn out great.



Sailing on Catalyst

Except for the free day, we had quite good weather and the sail day was **perfect**. I don't think anyone wanted to come back! Sorry that we took away the social hour, Cecilia.



It is really great and heart filling to be with a group of people who can pull this all together. Joanne Collins is right when she says we are **small but mighty**. I am proud and happy to be one of our FF of SW FL group.

Sue Linehan

2015 Outbound Exchange to Belgium and Germany May 12 - 26, 2015



Our outbound ED, **Lou Rizk**, advises that 12 people put down a deposit on our club's outbound exchange to Schwerin, Germany and Bruges, Belgium. There are 3 openings remaining. If you want to take part in this exchange, don't delay in putting down your deposit. The first exchange is scheduled May 12-18 in Schwerin; the second begins May 20 and ends May 26 in Bruges. Depending when we leave Germany, we will have part of the 18th, all of the 19th and part of the 20th in Amsterdam, Netherlands. We will have a meeting of all the outbound

Welcome New Members

We are so happy you joined us and we look forward to seeing you at our next events!



© Can Stock Photo - csp11743816

What in the World are our members doing?

Did you know that **Sibby Yemma** is a BBQ judge?

In fact, she is going to [Lake Havasu](#) the end of February to judge a contest. Where is Lake Havasu? It is a large reservoir behind Parker Dam on the Colorado River, on the border between California and Arizona. Lake Havasu City sits on the lake's eastern shore.

President's comments

We started 2015 off with a great January meeting where the new website was demonstrated. Following that, we had a wonderful exchange with the Denver

Club. They even gave us a travelogue at the Farewell Dinner of the myriad of things to see and do in Denver. I loved the singing of John Denver's song, *Rocky Mountain High* by our two clubs. I can smell that crisp mountain air! We will arrange a 2016 outgoing summer or fall exchange there. So pencil Denver into your long-range travel plans!

I was delighted to hear from Atlanta that our request to travel to Costa Rica was approved. I know we will have fun visiting those who we hosted in March 2014. Wow, yet another trip for next year - we are doing well!

Some former members did not renew for this year, so that means we will continue to recruit heavily for new members. Don't forget to talk enthusiastically to all your friends and invite them to some of our events. World Friendship Day on March 1st is the perfect time to have them join us!



Little Luna the owl

*Happy Travels,
Joanne
Parting Shots*



Bella, the Great Horned Owl



Dennis poses for Farewell Dinner picture!

Do you like our newsletter? **Oops** Forgot to have the drawing at the last meeting so don't despair! I will put your name in the bowl for last month's newsletter! But, you can have your name in twice if you let me know your comments on **this** newsletter. Just email me at eagleswingsj@yahoo.com. For those who do so, I will put your name in a bowl and draw for a prize at the World Friendship Day Meeting and Food Fest. Winners must be present to win. Hope to hear from you soon!

Friendship Force of Southwest Florida | 281-543-9018 | eagleswingsj@yahoo.com |
<http://www.friendshipforceswfl.org>
257 Lido Drive
Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Experience the World with Friendship Force
You can change the world, one friendship at a time!

Copyright © 2014. All Rights Reserved.

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to eagleswingsj@yahoo.com by eagleswingsj@yahoo.com |
[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Friendship Force of Southwest Florida | 257 Lido Drive | Punta Gorda | FL | 33950