



friendship force Southwest florida

Newsletter May 2016

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

General Meeting with Bev & Kev's remarkable 5 Club "Back-to-Back" Exchange Presentation

Mark your calendar for...

Friday, May 6, 11 a.m. Fort Myers Library, 2450
First Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901

(Directions on our website under **About Us**,
Our Calendar, scroll down to **Directions to Ft
Myers Library**)



Our 2nd Vice President, Beverly Harmon, and Kev

Quick Links

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Mission

*To promote global
understanding across
barriers that separate
people*

Values

*Mutual Respect Cultural
Diversity Cultural
Exploration Service*

Elected Board (voting members)

President
Sue Linehan
1st VP
Michelle Kemps
2nd VP
Beverly Harmon
Treasurer
Cathy Cobb
Secretary

Janiak dove into Friendship Force quickly. Last year before we barely knew them, they were off on their first Friendship Force adventure with a Canadian Club. Little did they realize that they would embark on a recording breaking exchange tour that visited 5 "back-to-back" clubs in Australia and New Zealand!

We've been curious about their amazing adventure and if you attend on May 6, you will hear all about it. They have some great slides to share with you, too!

Hope to see you there! Don't miss it!



Kev & Bev soaking up the sun down under!

Carol Berry

Non-voting Board

Membership/Publicity

Joanne Collins
Michelle Kemps

ED Coordination

Lou Rizk

Email, Club Roster, Sunshine

Cheryle Phelps

Historian

Carla Harms

Webmaster, Club Photographer

Richard Collins

Parliamentarian

Jody Garmon

Newsletter

Joanne Collins

Programs/Fundraising

Entire Board

Welcome to New Members

We have 2 new members who recently joined our club, bringing our total club membership to **53** members!

Welcome to a lovely couple,



Nassab (Nancy) & Munir, who live in Ft. Myers. Thanks to Lou Rizk for bringing them into our group!



Our newest members, Nancy & Munir Fahreddine

Lunch at Japanese Restaurant in June

Mark your calendar for Friday, June 10th, 12 Noon, for a delightful lunch at Ichiban's Japanese Restaurant at 1520 Broadway #106 in the Hotel Indigo downtown Ft Myers.

Let us know if you are coming by emailing us by June 6 at eagleswingsj@yahoo.com We need to let the restaurant know how many are attending. Sue will be back and will have a short general meeting.



Hope to see you there!

Did you get the email?

FFI recently sent out an email with a few new items. Did you get it?

If not, here is the important news:

- Their portion of our dues will go up to \$15 per person*

- *The World Conference will be held every 2 years beginning **after** 2017 Manchester, England Conference next year.*



*Jeremy Snook
FFI President & CEO*

Where in the World are our Members traveling?



Africa Bound this summer -
(with Overseas Adventure Tours)

Michelle Kemps

and Joanne & Richard Collins

Dennis Yemma - **eastern Europe**
Exchange with FFI just completed -
he will update us at May meeting!

Jack & Jo Cooley - traveling with
Sarasota Club to FF Exchange in
Taiwan with an add-on trip to **China**

Some of our snowbirds are back in their "other" homes -
Carol & Chris Nasby back in **Minnesota**,
Diane Van Beek heading to **Wisconsin**, Priscilla & Hugh McShane
to their ole **Kentucky** home, Maureen & Hank Butt went to **Mexico**
on the way back to northern **California**. **Anyone else?**

GREAT NEWS!

Jule & Dennis Yemma sold their Avon Park, FL home. They said that the buried statue of St Joseph really did the trick! We can all rest easy



that they will stay in Ft Myers and we can enjoy those fabulous pizzas!

Let me know your travel plans and news for the June edition!

2017: Anticipating Canada and Japan Exchanges



We look forward to **2017** Oubound Exchange to Canada - **Stratford-St Mary** and **Haliburton Highlands**, Ontario. According to their website, Stratford-St Mary says "Few places in Ontario are lovelier or more alive with culture and character than Stratford. It is a charming city nestled in pastoral countryside in Southwestern Ontario.

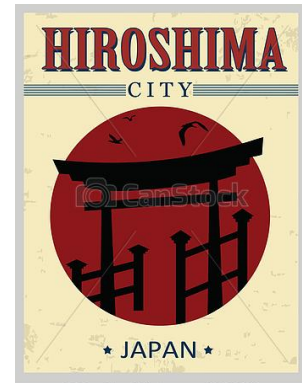
Stratford Shakespeare Festival is North America's largest classical repertory theatre, presenting the works of William Shakespeare and other great writers in its idyllic setting on the Avon River. Nine miles southwest is St. Marys, a charming small town, with many limestone buildings and houses, situated on the Thames River and Trout Creek. Its limestone deposits led to the development of a very well known Canadian cement company, St. Marys Cement. It boasts Canada's largest outdoor swimming pool, the Quarry."

The second club, Haliburton Highlands is a larger club (~ 75 members). They say "Our June/September exchanges begin with a welcome party and usually include the following elements: boat trip on one of our lakes, tour of the local artisan studios, trip to the Wolf Centre and the Fish Hatchery, and a walk along one of our trails through the woods." We received word that this is a **"cooperative exchange"** with the **Tbilisi Club** in the country of **Georgia**. Current suggested date is June 2017. Lou Rizk, Kev Janiak and Susan Beaudry volunteered to be EDs for this awesome outbound trip.

But there is more news! Regarding our international incoming exchange, the club of Hiroshima, Japan has been approved to visit us in March 2017. Members of our club visited them about 3 years ago. It will be great to return their wonderful hospitality.

Cheryle Phelps and Cathy Cobb volunteered to be the EDs for this exciting inbound trip.

Stay tuned for more information as the details develop.



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Save the dates

June 10 **11 AM - Ichiban's Lunch
downtown Fort Myers**

Aug 14 **Ice Cream Social
Location TBD**

Sept 16-19 **World Conference
Marrakesch, Morocco**

Oct & Nov **TBD**

**Oct 21 - 22 - All Florida Conference, 2-DAY EVENT
Clearwater Suncoast Club**

Dec **TBD - Holiday Brunch Colonial Country Club**



President's comments

Our president, Sue, is cruising the Bahamas - *She is due back in June.*

Here is a quote courtesy of Jack Cooley for you to ponder..

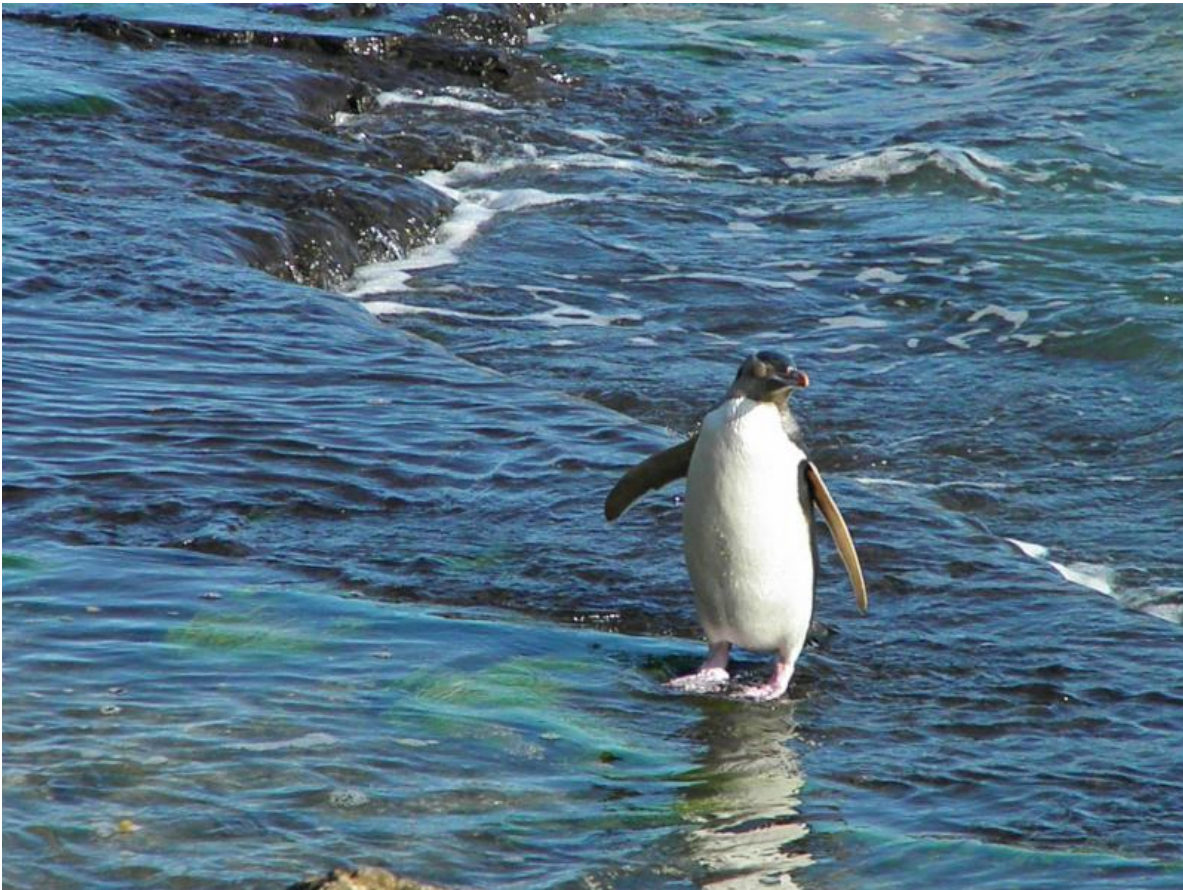
"Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bow lines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your



sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."

- Mark Twain

Parting Shot



Penguin in New Zealand
(picture by Bev)

Do you like our newsletter?

Just email Joanne at eagleswingsj@yahoo.com with any suggestions and stories. Hope to hear from you soon!

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

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Friendship Force of Southwest Florida, 258 Venezia Court, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

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