



friendship force
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

December 2018 Newsletter

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

Holiday Brunch & Election of Officers

Sunday, December 2, 10:15 a.m.

Isles Yacht Club

1780 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL



We are looking forward to our **Holiday Brunch** at the beautiful Isles Yacht Club, 1780 West Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda. If you would like to participate in the **gift exchange**, bring your wrapped gift costing in the \$10 range for some holiday fun. We will also have the Annual Meeting which will feature election of officers for 2019.



Need a ride? Just phone one of your FF friends who lives close to you!

In order for you to participate, please mail a check for **\$20.26 (per person)** right **away** to Joanne Collins, 257 Lido Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. We must let the Yacht Club know how many are attending.

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!

Out and About



Blue Grass & Acoustic Music
Indoors at Lee Co Alliance for Arts
Foulds Theater
10091 McGregor Blvd, Ft Myers
Sunday, December 16 from 2:00 - 5 pm

Carol Berry and the Out and About Committee invite you to a fun Sunday afternoon of fabulous blue grass and acoustic music. Featured artists are **Paddle Faster** and **Captain Joe & the Bottom Feeders**.

Don't delay - get your tickets today (only \$15) by calling the Alliance at 239-939-2787 or online by clicking the link ArtinLee.org/tickets

Its Time to Pay Your Dues!

The new year is almost here and that means it's time to pay your dues. The cost is \$35 per person or \$70 per couple. What a great value for a super club!

Make out your check to Friendship Force of Southwest Florida. **Bring it with you to the Holiday Brunch.** That will save you postage. If you

can't attend, mail your check by **12/31/18** to our current treasurers, Jo & Jack Cooley, 24464 Riverfront Drive, Port Charlotte, FL 33980.

Note: New members who joined our club in October, November and December of 2018 do not have to pay next year's dues!



Only \$35 annually!

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

Our Goal is that **everyone** of you to participate in this Aussie Visit to our Club!

- *Will you host?
- *Will you prepare a small dinner?
- *Will you be a Day Host?
- *Will you help us plan the Welcome & Farewell Party?

Joanne Collins and Bev Harmon are co-chairing this inbound journey. Plan on being with us on the dates of Feb 24- March 3, 2019. Six members of Central Coast club have signed up. They have also

accepted a few Americans from US clubs. Their plan is to come here first, then travel to FF Austin, TX club and finish up with a 3rd club visit to Phoenix, AZ.



Australian Icons

A little about them : [Central Coast Australia Club](#) was chartered in 1986, the first in New South Wales, and the second in Australia. It is a small, but growing club, that currently has 20 members. Central Coast is an urban region in New South Wales, located approximately 1 hour north of Sydney. The region is a network of towns that have been linked in recent years by expanding suburban development. The main urban cluster of the region surrounds the northern shore of Brisbane Water and includes the Coast's largest population center, Gosford. Central Coast has a campus of the University of Newcastle and many theaters in the region.

By the way, our FF friend, Margie Kang, sent us this link which gives you information about many aspects of Australia. Let's read up on it by clicking [Australia facts](#)

2019 Outbound Journeys to Indonesia and West Michigan April and September

Our club members **Carol Nasby** and **Susan Beaudry**, are our Journey Coordinators for Indonesia! Along with our neighboring Sarasota Club, we will visit **Banjarmasin** and **Malang** Trip #15074 in April 2019. There are 8 slots to fill and they've already received many applications. However, if you want to go, you can still be on the "Waiting List" in case others drop out. Just let them know.

Malang is the second largest city in East Java and is a popular tourist destination. Click on [Malang FF](#) to discover more fascinating info about this club of 40 that was founded in 1997 and who has welcomed many FF clubs throughout the world. **Banjarmasin** is known as a River City because it is located at the junction of the Barito and Martapura Rivers. Its population is 625,000 (2010 census). Find out more by clicking [Banjarmasin FF](#), a club of 27 founded in 2015.



Images of Indonesia



Want to go on this great journey? October 1-8, 2019

If so, please apply by clicking this link [JOURNEY APPLICATION](#). Then, turn the completed form into **Linda Supakoff** or **Luvvy Kovacik**, our joint Journey Coordinators (FF lingo is "JC"s) for the 2019 Fall trip to **West Michigan Club**. They are working on adding another week to the itinerary.

Where in the World are our members traveling?



Maureen recently completed her first FF Journey to Israel. She said it left her speechless!

No one travels more than Maureen!

Betty had met her life's dream to go to Egypt. She cruised the Nile! Ask her all about it!



Amazing Betty



Linda

Linda and Maureen are heading to Dubai...

What Are YOU doing next summer?

SAVE THE DATE

2019 FFI World Conference
New Location and New Dates

BOULDER, COLORADO, USA
JULY 23-27, 2019

Workshops/Plenaries: July 23-25 | Social/Local Activities: July 26-27

Due to Hurricane Maria's lasting impact on Puerto Rico, our 2019 World Conference location and dates have been changed.
Please save the *new* date and location, and plan to join us in Boulder, Colorado next July!

friendship force
INTERNATIONAL

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 TBD
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**

"One's destination is never a place, but always a new way of seeing things. "

- Henry Miller

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

President's Comments



The African Ambassadors participated in a Christmas parade with Michelle & Sue

Oh my, Thanksgiving is over and Christmas is around the corner!

Christmas brings back memories of when we accepted just TWO African ambassadors, from two different countries! We hesitated, but proceeded to give it a try. It was FANTASTIC.

Friendship Force is an incredible opportunity to pour your heart out to our guests. The more you get involved the better the reward.

I would LOVE to see 100% participation for our incoming Australian Journey. Call Joanne or Beverly and offer to help in anyway they need. You will not regret it. And remember, you too will travel and hope for the same sincere welcome.

Merry Christmas,
Michelle

Parting Shots



Out & About - What a great time we had touring downtown Ft Myers! TrueTours is excellent!

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

1st Vice President

2017 Non-voting Board

Membership

Carol Nasby

Publicity

Beverly Harmon
2nd Vice President
Ginny Dooley
Treasurer
Jack & Jo Cooley
Secretary
Linda Supakoff

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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