



friendship force
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

September & October 2019 Newsletter

Our Website www.friendshipforceswfl.org

General Meetings & Programs

Friday, September 6, 2019 beginning at 10 AM
Cape Coral Library
519 Chiquita Blvd, Cape Coral

Two of our top travelers, Susan Beaudry & Bev Harmon, have a treat in store for you! They will brief you on our club's outbound Journey to Indonesia, Singapore and Cambodia last April. Nine Club members jetted thousands of miles to the other side of the world with 5 from the Sarasota Club and 2 from West Michigan FF. *What a great journey of learning and friendship!* Hear all about the wonderful hospitality of the Banjarmasin and Malang clubs. They'll share their best pictures and memories. Don't miss it! Lunch to follow at a local restaurant.



Susan meets the locals

Friday, October 4, 2019 beginning at 10 AM
Punta Gorda Police & Fire Station Conference Room
1410 Tamiami Trail (Rt 41), Punta Gorda



Our own Betty Botsaris (with help from Cheryle Phelps) is our October presenter. She long ago had a desire to see Egypt. So, she booked a cruise down the Nile River and wants to share the highlights with you. Don't miss this inspiring talk by one adventuresome lady! Lunch to follow at a local restaurant.

Betty is a world traveler

Announcing 2020 In-Bound Journey - Saratov, Russia

Sue Linehan reports a change in the Russians' plans. They are *not* going to Brazil, but they are planning to visit our club. We do not have a date, but we think it will be sometime in the spring.

They have 21 people on their list who want to come here. 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 - and we said OK. Of course, their plans are dependent on *whether they can obtain visas!*

If they can, this will be a different kind of group for our club and we will change how we do some of our activities.

To refresh your memory, 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.



Scenes of City of Saratov, Russia



Russian flag

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



Margie

Want to learn more about Russia?

Friendship Force Club's friend, Margie Kang, sent us a Culturegram about Russia. Here it is: Click on [Culturegram on Russia](#) Type in User Name: bremer Password: cgrams

West Michigan Outbound Journey Begins Soon

Eleven club members led by Linda Supakoff, our Journey Coordinator, are counting the days to their inbound journey to West Michigan FF from Oct 1-7, 2019:

Some of the ambassadors are going a few days early to explore other parts of Michigan, including a stay on Mackinac Island.

It will be great to meet up with Marcia and the rest of the bunch who visited us in February 2018! See picture of us below. Great times!



*West Michigan Journey to Southwest Florida
February 1-7, 2018*

News Flash

News Flash

News Flash



What are your two most favorite aspects of our Southwest Florida Friendship Force Club?

Maybe you have more than two favorites? Now let me ask you, would these happen without a 'volunteer'?

The Nominating Committee is ready to help you fit in with the many very easy jobs we need to cover to make this club work. Remember we are a cultural exchange program started by a minister, Wayne Smith with help from President Jimmy Carter. We are not a 'Travel Agent'. We survive purely by volunteers.

Please call:

Priscilla McShane 502-931-6231 cell

Cathy Cobb 239 939 5187 home or 239 565 8412 cell

Richard Copeland 973 224 5934

or

All positions for 2018-2019 are listed on the bottom of every newsletter.

2019 needs some NEW NAMES. Any position can be held by 1,2,or 3 members. If you hook up with an established member, you can be easily mentored. Many hands make light work.

Remember, if we can't get volunteers to help, your 'Favorite" might be eliminated.

Welcome to a new member!



Welcome to Terese Libby who in May purchased a home in the Arborwood Community, Fort Myers.

She's interested in getting involved with our group and in hearing from and meeting you. Welcome, Terese!

Do you have some travel tips?

From Joanne & Richard...

Booking a rental car? Use [Autoslash.com](https://www.autoslash.com), the best web site for car rental rates!

Our friend's wallet was stolen from his back pocket on a Spanish train. So, don't forget to wear a money belt!



Send me your travel tip for next newsletter!

FFI Announcement



friendship force
INTERNATIONAL

Experience different views.
Discover common ground.

Hello Friendship Force Family!

As we continue to integrate translation capabilities into FFI's technology platforms, the news and information sent from headquarters needs to also reflect efforts to better reach clubs and members. As such, there are four initiatives we would like to share with you:

1. Our newsletters will be distributed every six months, instead of quarterly, and

will feature translation links for French, Spanish, Portuguese, Japanese, Russian and German versions.

2. Periodic regional communications in native languages (letters, news briefs, etc...) will originate from headquarters to clubs and members.
3. We will launch and coordinate with volunteer translation teams.
4. An international registry for members to receive secure, direct, and translated communications from headquarters is underway.

All of these are small but significant steps towards a stronger future for all of us. More to come!

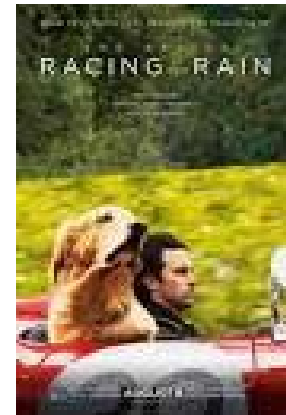
Jeremi Snook, President & CEO

Note: Click on [Dietary Requirements](#) - UPDATED!
Click on [Travel Insurance](#)

Out and About Report

Michelle reported, "Beverly arranged the club outing to the movies. We enjoyed lunch at Ruby Tuesday's...\$5 special Salad Bar, and then we were off to see *The Art of Racing in the Rain*. This is a movie told through the eyes of a dog. It was a great FLICK....I had read the book a long time ago, and the movie followed it well.

There were 9 of us in total. Betty, Lou and I polished off TWO big buckets of Popcorn."



Where in the World are our members traveling?



Where are you traveling? Send me an email and pictures so that I can include it in the next newsletter.

Just heard that Maureen is in Paris!



Save the Dates 2019 -Events & Meetings
Starting time 10 AM

November 1 - Program on Russia Journey by JoAnn Debaugh

December 8 - **Holiday Brunch** & **Change of Officers**
Isles Yacht Club, 10:30 am, Punta Gorda

CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD

"Once a year, go somewhere you've never been before."

- The Dalai Lama

President's Comments



Michelle is hugged by grateful habitat participant

FF is an opportunity to learn about other cultures and helping when possible. This year, for the first time, FFI has asked Volunteers from our FF clubs to participate in another of President Carter's ideas, Habitat for Humanity. Twenty FF Volunteers have agreed to go to Romania. We will build and learn about their culture for 7 days. If we decide it is successful, FFI will run future programs of 2-3 week and tie it in with a home stay. So, as President, I apologize for missing another meeting, but I am representing our club.



Romania landscape

** I need to reiterate the need for Volunteers to be on the Board and Committees next year.**

Without your help, our club will fold! Really.

It takes **You**.

Please call someone on the Nominating Committee today.

*In Friendship,
Michelle*

Parting Shots



*This year's Ice Cream Social featured crazy hats and games -
Thanks to Jo & Jack Cooley*



*Lovely seafood lunch with Linda and her new husband, Marvin!
Much happiness in your new life together from FF friends*

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 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*s

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

Experience Different Views.
Discover Common Ground.