



friendship force  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

## November & December 2021 Newsletter

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Let's Eat **Lunch** Out & Catch a **Movie** in the Bonita area  
Tuesday, November 2, beginning at 11:30 am



**Lunch Get-together**  
**El Gaucho Inca Estero**  
22909 Lyden Drive, Estero  
Phone 239-494-1564

Join us for lunch at a neat Peruvian restaurant near Coconut Point. Afterwards, we will see a 1 pm movie at Prado Theater, just a few miles away. Need a ride? Phone a member friend and carpool together. Let us know if you are coming by emailing [Luvvy](mailto:Luvvy) by Nov 1.

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**General Meeting & Program**  
**Traveling Internationally in Covid Times**  
Friday, November 12, beginning 10:00 am  
Ft Myers Library Meeting Room  
2450 First Street (near back parking lot)

Lunch following at Ford's Garage, walking distance from Library



Did you know that our co-president, Maureen, and our Vice President, Carol, recently traveled to Europe through the countries of Portugal, Germany and France?

Both will update us on the status of travel in Europe during Covid Times.

Our club officers will present club business and the status of our Inbound and Outbound Journeys in 2022.. Hope to see you there!

## Sacramento, California Outbound Journey June 1-7, 2022



**Joanne Collins** is our Journey Coordinator for this trip and is working with **Kathy DeBlonk**, Sacramento's Host Coordinator, for our trip next year. Joanne and Kathy agreed the dates June 1-7 would be great for both clubs. Sacramento Club usually houses 20-22 ambassadors. For planning purposes, you should check your calendar and email [Joanne](#) if you are interested in this trip. **Beginning January 1, 2022**, Joanne will

instruct you to send in a deposit of \$100 made out to Friendship Force of Southwest Florida along with your application form that is accessible on the FFI website under Member Resources, Journey Documents. Click on [Ambassador & Journey Agreement](#).

### *What can you expect for the week when you visit the Sacramento Club?*

From their website ([click on https://www.ffi-sacramento.org](https://www.ffi-sacramento.org)), "You can expect to see historic sites in Sacramento's Old Town and busy governmental center. The world-class Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento is a possible destination. Other oft-visited sites are the nearby wineries of El Dorado and Amador Counties, the giant Sequoias at Calaveras Big Trees State Park, and the former gold mining sites in the Sierra foothills such as the Empire Mine and Coloma Gold Discovery Site. You can expect a home hosted dinner or brunch party during your stay. A visit to one of the myriad of ethnic restaurants is another possibility. We also take advantage of local festivals and events if they occur during your visit." We will spend one week in Sacramento. You can easily add on another week by planning your own activities. Perhaps one of our other club members would be interested in going with you to San Francisco, Yosemite or one of the other interesting places in the state! Reach out and start your planning now for 2022.

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## **Inbound Detroit Club will visit our club February 22-27, 2022**



**Judy Carson** says, "Mark your calendar and be ready to help your club host the Friendship Force of Greater Detroit Club **February 22-27, 2022.**" This club was chartered in November 1991 and has ~40 members including families and singles.

The oldest city in the Midwest, Detroit is best known as Motor City because the city revolves around automobiles. The Detroit area houses the world headquarters of General Motors and Ford. Most Greater Detroit members live in southeast Michigan, radiating out from Detroit about 60 miles, in 16 different communities.

Judy volunteered to be our club's Host Coordinator for the week they will be here. We **expect 20 ambassadors (visitors)** from Detroit and surrounding area clubs. We will need our members to host and help. Perhaps you will house a visiting club member or members, perhaps you will cook a dinner for a group during their stay. You could be asked to be a "day host" to help those housing ambassador visitors or you could volunteer to coordinate a Welcome and/or Fare Well Party. You should plan on attending the Welcome and Fare Well Events. It takes the **whole club's energy** to pull off a fun Inbound Journey for our guests! **Expect to help** in some way and someday when you travel to a domestic or international destination with Friendship Force, your generosity will be repaid!

**Joanne Collins** is updating and verifying our club's **hosting information**. She will contact you via text, phone or email. We need to know **bed** information (*e.g.*, do you have twin, queen size beds and how many), how many ambassadors are you willing to host, if you will host smokers, and whether you have any pets (dogs, cats, birds). **Our Board is requiring all those who visit to have a current Covid Vaccine and in turn, the visiting clubs require that you, too, and your family members have been vaccinated against Covid.**

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# CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD



## Canada Edmonton and Medicine Hat Outbound Journeys July 2022

Maureen, our Club Co-President, and Carol, our Club Vice President are the Journey Coordinators for these two journeys scheduled for July 2022. Both want you to know that they are working on setting up firm dates with the two clubs. The trip will be back-to-back journeys in July 2022. They are talking to the two clubs and we are on their schedules. Look for more info later in the year. Now is the time to check your calendar and decide whether you want to go. Be ready to send in your trip deposits and Ambassador & Journey Agreement Forms. (See article above on Sacramento Outbound to obtain link to the documents).



friendship force  
INTERNATIONAL

Time to Get Plugged In!

Please get plugged into the NEW & IMPROVED Member's Website. This site is new! Find it today and set up your account. Click on [My.friendshipforce.org](http://My.friendshipforce.org) Don't miss out on the latest news and journey information.

## Christmas Brunch Pot Luck

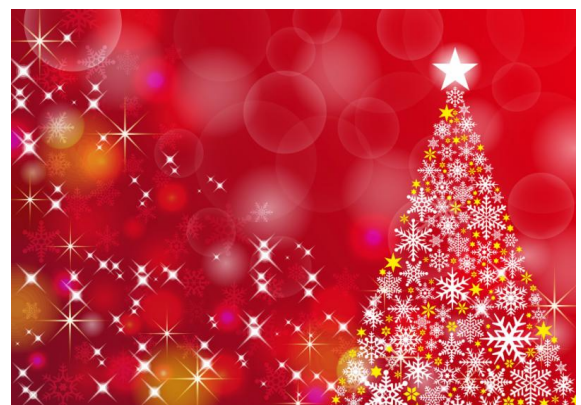
10:30 am - 2:00 pm

**Sunday, December 12**

*Lake Fairways Clubhouse*

*19371 Tamiami Trail*

*North Fort Myers*

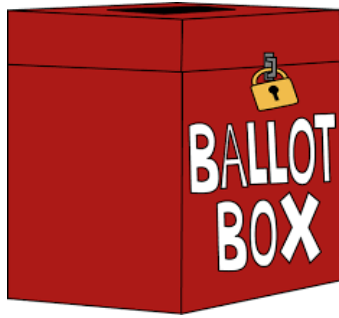


Judy Carson secured a recently remodeled meeting area for our annual **Christmas Brunch**. Please arrive on time with an entree or appetizer-salad dish to pass that will feed at least 8 - 10 people. **Christmas Wassail Punch and water** will be available. The club will also provide table setting plates, utensils, cups and dessert. Please email [Carol Nasby](mailto:Carol.Nasby) by 12/6/21 or give her a call/text 507-236-6704

on what dish you are bringing. Please let her know if you are coming so that we have enough place settings and drinks for everybody!

Our past tradition is that if you would like to participate in a fun **gift exchange**, bring your wrapped gift costing in the **\$10 range** for holiday fun. Will will also have the **Annual Meeting** which will feature election of officers for 2022.

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### Election of Officers 2022

All current officers have agreed to serve another year except for **Rich Copeland**. His eye issues prevent him from continuing as our **Club Treasurer**.

Thank you for your service, Rich!

We are seeking a responsible person who is willing to keep our club's books, collect checks and keep track of our funds. Please email [Maureen](#) or [Linda](#) to let them know if you are willing to help our great club out beginning January 1, 2022.

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### It's Time to pay your Dues for 2022

Can you believe we have only two more months of the year?

Make out your **\$40 check** to Friendship Force of Southwest Florida. Give it to our treasurer at the next monthly meeting or even better, mail it today to him at 2400 Aqua Esta Blvd, Punta Gorda, FL 33950.

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### Co President's Comments

As we enter into the final months of this year, I would like to welcome our seasonal members "back" and say hello to all of you who have continued to be our FFSWFL club members.

We are making progress as our world reopens and vaccination rates are on the increase. 2021 has been a year to remember as we have had to **reinvent** ourselves to



continue to be connected. **ALL** of you matter and **THANK YOU** for your participation in Zoom, phone calls, photos, our Newsletter and Website, emails/texts, presentations, social gatherings and for those who have already created your own member-member and sign-in on [my.friendshipforce.org](http://my.friendshipforce.org).

As mentioned in this newsletter, we would appreciate a member to step up as **Treasurer** beginning January 1. Richard Copeland has done a great job to simplify the task! Please thank about this. Our other Board Members will continue for 2022 and we will ask for nominations from the floor at our next meeting on November 12.

I look forward to moving forward and keeping our club interesting, active, motivated and fun as we reach out to each other in friendship.

In Peace and Friendship,  
*Maureen*

### **P.S. \*Reminder\* Club Halloween Party**

Join us at Co-President Linda's for our Halloween Party on Friday, Oct 29. Let Linda know if you are coming by email/text 772-539-1476. Costumes welcome but not required. Bring a dish to pass. Don't want to drive home in the dark? Stay over at Sue Linehan's or another club member's place. Just let Sue or Linda know your bed requirement!

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## Parting Shots



We had fun eating Chinese food at Ginger Bistro during Labor Day Weekend

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**Friendship Force of  
Southwest Florida**

[Email Us](#)



*Check us out &  
contribute to Group  
Facebook Page! Click  
FaceBook icon above!*