



friendship force
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

September & October 2021 Newsletter

Let's Eat Out on Saturday, September 4, 12:30 p.m.



Labor Day Lunch Get-together

Ginger Bistro

4650 Cleveland Ave (Rt 41)

Ft Myers 33907

41 Dim Sum items on the menu

Join us for lunch at Ginger Bistro with our club members! We've heard great reports on the variety of food at this place. Let's have a Labor Day "cultural experience" eating Chinese food together! Need a ride? Phone a member friends and carpool together. Let us know if you are coming by emailing [Joanne](#) by Sept 1.

On the Move This Summer

We know about some interesting trips other club members took this summer. Have you heard?



Judy Carson has not been able to travel to her Canadian summer cottage in Stag Island in the St. Clair River for 705 days! She is currently on a solo ROAD Trip there. She is finally able to cross the border. She will vacation for one month before returning to Florida.

Sue & Rob Linehan are on a road trip to Williamsburg, VA to visit daughter & family.

Joanne & Richard Collins visited South Dakota to take in Mount Rushmore & the Badlands. Later they traveled to northern California and the Big Island of Hawaii to visit family members. Their daughter, Michele, recently purchased a home on the Big Island.

Michelle Kemps flew to New Jersey to spend a few weeks with grandchildren & family.

Carol & Chris Nasby were on the move from Minnesota to California to visit with their family the National Parks around Yosemite. Now, they are preparing for a three-week trip to France. They will visit the village of St Émilion, and tour several world famous vineyards near Bordeaux in September. Also, they are doing a Viking river cruise, Wine Country and Chateaux, in the Bordeaux region. Their son from Norway is coming down to spend a week enjoying the French ambience. They have not seen him since October of 2019 so they are really looking forward to that!

Linda Supakoff & Rich Copeland took a road trip driving north along the "Great River Road" which borders the Mississippi.

Marcie Ellis is working to jump start Michigan Clubs travel. She set up a novel 3-day Inbound from Michigan based clubs to her club in Southwest Michigan. She is an associate member of our club, too. She recently flew down to attend our Flamingo Ice Cream Party!

General Meeting & Presentation
Friday, October 8, beginning 10:30 am



Punta Gorda Police & Fire Station
Conference Rm, 1410 Tamiami Tr
Lunch following Burg'r Bar, 317 Tamiami Tr

Linda and other club officers will update us on club business. Afterwards, Joanne & Richard will give a short slide show of their summer adventure to South Dakota. Everyone is welcome to participate by telling or showing pictures of their summer experiences. Afterwards, we will head on over to Burg'r Bar, a with great selections of burgers (beef, turkey or bison) and other entrees, reasonably priced. Hope to see you there!



You're invited to a Spooky Pot Luck Halloween Party!

Saturday, October 30, 6:30 pm

1353 San Mateo Drive

Punta Gorda, FL 33950

RSVP via email to Linda by 10/28

Come in costume (or not!) for a fun evening with Linda and Rich and your fellow club members! Bring a dish to pass and your favorite beverage! Join in the fun!

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. Soon, 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.ffsacramento.org](https://www.ffsacramento.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.

Inbound Detroit Club will visit our club in mid February 2022

Judy Carson says, "Mark your calendar and be ready to help your club host the Friendship Force of Greater Detroit Club in mid February 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. She will ask you to help in some way - perhaps you will house a Detroit 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!

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!

Our Parent Organization, FFI, is busily working behind the scenes to insure success. You recently received a message from Jeremi Snook, CEO. If you haven't already, please listen to it here [Video from CEO](#).

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 Don't miss out on the latest news and journey information.

Summer Pot Luck



Dennis & Jule



Sibby



Cheryle & Betty

Thanks to Cheryle and Lou for the delicious Pot Luck on July 14th. Guests of honor were Dennis & Jule with Sibby, who were active former members of our club. Dennis was our Vice President and Journey Coordinator for our Japan Outbound Trip. Jule was our club secretary. Dennis and Jule now live in Pennsylvania. It was a well attended event and everyone had lots of fun catching up! It was so great to see our friends again!

Global Journey - Do you know?

A **Global Journey** is organized by our parent organization, Friendship Force International (FFI) and is open to Friendship Force members worldwide. All Journeys, including global ones, are easily accessed by members through the FFI Website.

Do you know? Some of our club members are signed up to go on a Global Journey to Brazil next year in August led by FF Baton Rouge, Louisiana club member, Vicki Vance. Those attending from our club are Maureen Butt, Linda Supakoff, Rich Copeland, and Carol and Chris Nasby. Currently there are two more spaces available for this small group of 16. The itinerary for this eco-Journey is:

Friday, August 6 - depart your home airport

Saturday, August 7 - early morning arrival Sao Paulo international airport - GRU

Saturday, August 7 - depart GRU to begin six night FF homestay in Ribeirao Preto

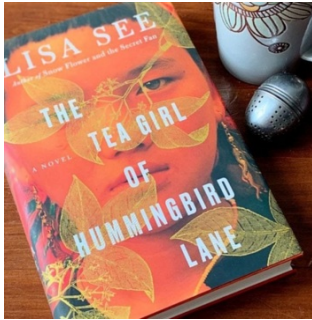
Friday, August 13 - depart Ribeirao Preto for Campo Grande to begin tour, overnight Hotel Deville

Saturday, August 14 - Eight night tour of Bonito/Southern Pantanal - Iguazu Falls

Sunday, August 22 - depart Campo Grande airport for Sao Paulo international - GRU for flights home or further travel on your own.



Sensational!



Opportunity - FFI Book Club

FFI members who enjoy books are reading together "*The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*" by #1 New York Times bestselling author, Lisa See. You can discuss this book virtually with fellow Friendship Force members in a Book Club meeting on **September 27 at 2:00 pm EDT!**

Read what the media has to say about this spellbinding portrait of life as a Chinese American woman :

*"A powerful story about circumstances, culture, and distance, *The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane* paints an unforgettable portrait of a little known region and its people and celebrates the bond of family" — Dublin Literary Award*

"See is one of those special writers capable of delivering both poetry and plot." — New York Times Book Review

"A lush tale infused with clear-eyed compassion, this novel will inspire reflection, discussion and an overwhelming desire to drink rare Chinese tea." —The Washington Post

What are you waiting for? Read this book and sign up today by going into your account on **My.friendshipforce.org** !

Save the Date

Club Christmas Brunch

10 am - 2:30 pm

Sunday, December 12

Lake Fairways Clubhouse

North Fort Myers



Co President's Comments

Our club Co-President is excited to be traveling in Europe for



a month! She and husband, Hank, spent the summer in her other home in northern California.

She told us that they are leaving soon for

2 weeks in Portugal

2 weeks in northern Germany called Niedersachsen - My husband, Hank's birthplace, on the North Sea

I'm starting off nonstop air flight San Francisco to Lisbon
5 nights in cosmopolitan Lisbon before embarking on the 10 day "Portugal River of Gold" Viking River Cruise

Following Portugal, we fly from Porto to Bremen Germany, Hank's birthplace. He lived here for 23 years until he immigrated to America. We're visiting friends and family and spending 6 days in Schleswig-Holstein which is the northern most of the 16 states of Germany on the border of Denmark to the north and bordered on the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Elbe River.

By the way, Maureen contacted the **FF Club of Lubeck Germany**. They were so pleased to hear from her. They arranged a dinner for her on September 18 at the home of Ina Bornheim, Club President, with other club members to meet Maureen & Hank !

Ina has organized a personal tour of her Hanseatic city, Lubeck, founded in the 12th century and now a UNESCO World Heritage site. **They will discuss the inbound trip to Lubeck, Germany to our club in fall 2022.**

On return to the USA Hank and Maureen will be home in California for three weeks and then begin their drive cross country to Florida... Arriving in November!

*In Peace and Friendship,
Maureen*

P.S. Check out the Lubeck Castle below



Parting Shots

We had a great turn out for our annual Ice Cream Social which was a **FLAMINGO PARTY** complete with ice cream cake, games and surprises. Thank you, Past

President, Michelle Kemps, for a fabulous time!



Home made Ice Cream cake with Michelle, Jack and Joanne MacPeck



Our club secretary, Sue Masters, with her teen granddaughters



There was even an appearance from Dotty with Jack & Jo!



Michelle poses as a flamingo with her precious duck



Past President, Luvvy, was pretty in pink and enjoyed herself immensely



Richard had a new flamingo shirt for the occasion



Marcy flew in from Michigan to attend the party!



Joanne, Michelle and Ginny are all winners!



Michelle tried to recruit this couple to our club. We shall see!

**Friendship Force of
Southwest Florida**

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contribute to Group
Facebook Page! Click
FaceBook icon above!*