



friendship force
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

Summer 2026 Newsletter

Friday, May 8, 12 Noon
Game Day and New Members
Welcome at Terese Libby's
home in Fort Myers.

Bring food to pass, your
place setting & a game to
play.

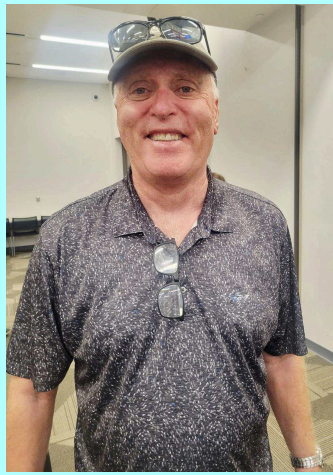


RSVP by May 6th to Terese at 248-229-7261 OR
at Terese.libby@gmail.com

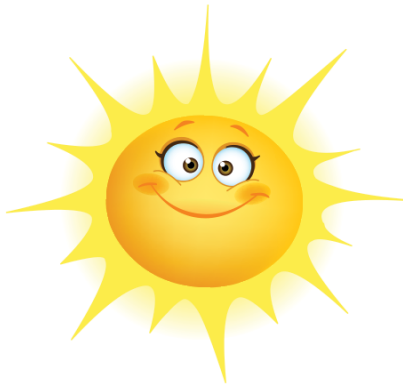


Welcome New Members

Barbara Hoenes was brought by Jo and Jack Cooley to our recent World Friendship Force Day at Kim's home. Barbara is a neighbor of the Cooleys who, together with her significant other, Keith, would like to travel more extensively. She owns a horse and loves animals and art. Welcome Barbara...and we hope you will travel with us and meet many other FF members throughout the world.



Marty Schoonheim heard all about FF from his sister who is an active member of the Western Michigan FF Club. Marty and his wife reside in Fort Myers. He recently retired as a Project Control Specialist. Since his wife is not as interested in traveling as he is, he thought he'd join us on some great traveling adventures. Welcome to our club, Marty, and we hope you will sign up soon for a great journey either with us or another Friendship Force Club.



Summer Social Events

Many of our group will be leaving soon for summer travel or to return to their summer homes. For those who stay in SWFL, here are some fun summer events to help you stay connected to your local Southwest Florida

Friendships!

May - Friday, May 8 - Game Time at Terese Libby's home in Fort Myers from 12 noon to 3 pm. Please bring a dish to pass or a dessert, your table service and a fun game to play with all.

June - Friday, June 19 - Pop Stroke Mini Golf outing in Fort Myers. An email announcement will be sent to members in early June.

July social events TBD

August - Friday, August 7, 2 pm - Ice Cream Social at Linda Supakoff's home. An email announcement will be sent out to members in late July.

These activities are planned by FF Southwest FL Social Committee. All members are welcome to contact the Social Committee with interesting ideas and places to visit in our area.

*"Happy Trails to you until we meet again,
Happy Trails to you keep smiling until then"
- Roy Rogers & Dale Evans*

Dianne Gooding: 517-655-4563

Kim Cullinan: 913-221-9197

Carol Nasby: 507-236-6704

Joy Perez: 239-851-5743

Inbound Banjarmasin, Indonesia November 8-13, 2026

Unfortunately, the Indonesian Club had problems getting visas to come to our country. We are disappointed, but perhaps next year they will be able to make it happen. Hoping to host them in the future.



Our clubs 2026 Outbounds



Cornwall, UK - Fourteen of us will be hosted by the Cornwall Chapter mid-May and look forward to exploring the Cornwall area and making new friendships.

When we return, we will present a program on this amazing journey at the October monthly meeting.



Sri Lanka - Maureen Butt, Journey Coordinator, reports that she's filled 6 seats for this amazing October 2026 journey to a club in east Sri Lanka, with a pre-trip to Singapore and a post-trip Sri Lanka tour. The FF trip number is 26425.

She is now taking Waiting List hopefuls who advise her that they would like to come. Questions? Contact **Maureen** at 408-334-3216 or mayo97@gmail.com

Save the Dates

FALL SCHEDULE: MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September-No scheduled meeting or events



October - Friday, October 16. Member Meeting. Location TBD. - 10:00 Social. 10:30-12:00 Meeting/ Presentation on Cornwall and Regional Conference. Lunch following meeting at a restaurant -TBD

November

Monday, November 16, 2026--BOOK CLUB. Check out *Wild Dark Shore*, by Charlotte McConaghy, and join other FF readers to discuss the book at the home of Susan Hills, 1306 Sea Horse Ct., Punta Gorda at 10:00 a.m. Let Susan know if you would like to join the discussion by calling her at 941-286-3452 or email her at Route66sr@yahoo.com. All are welcome!

Friday, November 20. Member Meeting. Location TBD. 10:00 Social. 10:30-12:00 Meeting/ Presentation on Sri Lanka outbound journey-by journey leader Maureen Butts Lunch after meeting at a restaurant--TBD

December—Sunday, December 13. Holiday Party, Lake Fairways Club House. 12:00-3:00. Bring a \$10-15 gift for the “exchange” game

Missed meeting? Need to Keep Up with our Club?

If you've missed a meeting and want to know what happened, check out club MINUTES found on our FF Website under Membership Tab. Click [minutes](#). Go to minutes and read all about it. So easy!

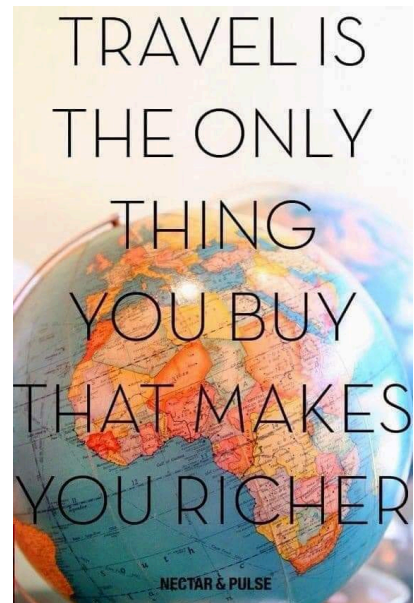
CHANGING THE WAY YOU SEE THE WORLD

My FFI

The members-only portal, my.friendshipforce.org, is the go-to place for news, journey opportunities, payments, virtual experiences and all other member-relevant information. If you have not yet signed up, please do so.

More Travel Opportunities

FFI has posted all club journeys throughout the world for 2026!



Click the link below to review a catalog of Special Journeys that are currently being offered by other FFI clubs. Perhaps there is a journey that interests you

[2026 CLUB GROUP JOURNEYS](#)

[2026 INDEPENDENT JOURNEYS](#)

President's Comments

Happy May!

Carol Nasby and I recently returned home after a 21-day Journey to Japan. There's a popular saying, "April showers bring May flowers." In Japan, it was March showers that brought incredibly beautiful cherry tree blossoms during our three weeks in Japan!



We enjoyed every moment of the trip...from Cherry Blossoms to Mt Fuji. However, we found the “magic” was in the people and culture of Japan!

The Journey included ambassadors from four US clubs: Iowa City and Des Moines Iowa; Twin-cities, MN; and SW Florida. We landed in Tokyo on March 25 and were greeted by the Saitama club (near Tokyo). During the week, we enjoyed a lesson in Kimono dressing, calligraphy, historical Saitama and Kawagoe, and more.

We next had eight days of touring with a private guide exploring Kyoto, Mt Fuji, the Tori Gates, Nara Park, bamboo forest, Osaka and

Hiroshima.

Our last four days were hosted by the Koriyama club. We learned to make Wagashi (Japanese sweets), a formal Tea Ceremony, Tsuruga-Jo Castle and Ouchijuku village. We even were in the local newspaper!!

Glad to return to our Southwest Florida friends and look forward to seeing you at our summer social events.

In Friendship, Terese



Parting Shots

**Friendship Force of
Southwest Florida**

[Email Us](#)



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



Try email marketing for free today!