

FRIENDSHIP FORCE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

SEPTEMBER 2026 NEWSLETTER



A message from your President

We are entering our 2026-2027 season of travel and social events for our FFSWFL Chapter, and we have many opportunities for you! An Inbound Journey is coming from Memphis, February 1-6, 2027. Carol Nasby's team needs home hosts and day hosts for the week...so please sign up to participate. We will need all hands-on deck! Mark your calendars for our monthly meetings on the 3rd Friday of every month, beginning in October. I look forward to catching up with everyone at our kick-off meeting on Friday, October 16, 2026. (The location will be confirmed in a follow-up email.)

*In friendship, your 2026-2027 President,
Terese Libby*





Inbound from Memphis coming to us February 1-7 of 2027

The committee on inbound journeys has started its planning, and we will be welcoming between 10 to 12 Memphis Friendship Force ambassadors to spend a week getting to know Southwest Florida. **We need you to sign up to host the ambassadors or to be a day host for ambassadors** to make sure they have a great week. Please email host coordinator, Carol Nasby, at carol.nasby@gmail.com to volunteer for hosting or day hosting. We need you!

New Caledonia is our next Outbound Journey April of 2027



With its gleaming white-sand beaches, exquisite French and Polynesian cuisine, and one of the world's largest barrier reefs, a trip to New Caledonia doesn't take much convincing. This tiny but mighty jewel-like cluster of islands in the South Pacific is a tropical playground of psychedelic coral systems, traditional culture, world-famous isles, and road trip adventures that beckon travelers from across the globe.

Linda Supakoff is the journey coordinator. She would love to hear from you to discuss more of the

details of this journey. (772-539-1476 or supakoff@aol.com)

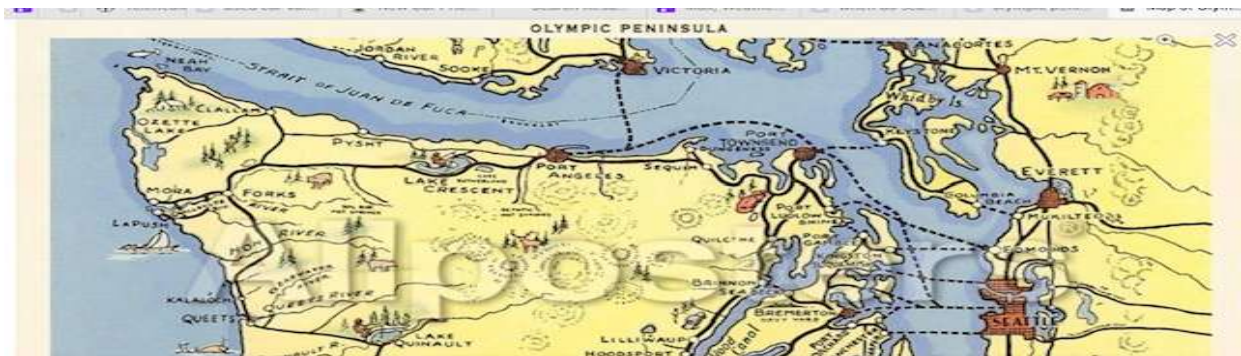
A third exciting travel opportunity is being planned to visit the Seattle, Washington area...a region abounding with interesting sites and experiences!



Seattle Journey -September 2027 Dates TBD

The end of August/Early September seems to be the best time of year to visit. Specific dates TBD.

In addition to meeting new Friends with the Seattle Club, Seattle has many sites to see including: Pike Place market, Smith tower, 175' Ferris wheel by the waterfront, Space Needle, Chihuly Glass Museum, Danish artist Thomas Dambo 's Trolls.



Pre - or Post - Trips to Olympic Peninsula

We're in the planning stages of a pre- or post- trip to Olympic Peninsula. Vancouver Island-Bouchard Gardens, Vancouver, could be added. The highlight of the Peninsula is the Quinat rainforest with a view of Lake Quinalt. We'll rent cars to tour the island and enjoy the beautiful views. The length of the trip TBD. **Contact: Journey Coordinator-Terese Libby** terese.libby@gmail.com **Committee: Mary Montagne, Susan Hills, Terese Libby**

FFSWF Social Events

We don't have to travel to enjoy each other's company!

A successful ice cream social was held at Linda Supakof's home on August 7, 2026!





September Social Events



SMALL GROUP DINNERS

We are starting a new social event this fall! You are invited to share a dinner with six to ten members in the homes of fellow Friendship Force members. The host will provide the entrée and tableware, and guests will bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert.

Our first dinner will be held at Dianne and Bill Gooding's home in Punta Gorda on Thursday, September 24th with a *Viva Italian* theme! **Please call Dianne at [517-655-4563](tel:517-655-4563) and let her know if you would like to attend.** Participation will be limited to the first 10 respondents.

ALSO...call Dianne Gooding at 517-655-4563 to **sign up to host a dinner** some month after September.

SANIBEL ISLAND BEACH WALK, SHELLING, AND TURTLE TALK



We are planning a **morning event, followed by lunch, the last week of September**. We will be exploring Bowman Beach with a coastal naturalist and discover interesting shells and facts about the natural resources of Sanibel Island. The walk will take about two hours and will begin at 9:00 am. It will be followed by lunch at the Over Easy Café or Dr. Ford's on the island.

We will send out a news blast when we know the exact date, as well as details with opportunities to carpool.

September Casual “Meet Ups



Come if you can to casual “Meet Ups”! Just let Dianne or Joy know if you are interested in joining us, so we can sit together. (Dianne Gooding [517-655-4563](tel:517-655-4563) Joy Perez [239-851-5743](tel:239-851-5743))

1. **Eagles Landing at Sabal Springs**, [3410 Club View Drive, North Fort Myers](#), dinner and music with Band Stand, Oldies but Goodies in the lounge on Saturday, September 12th. Happy Hour from 3-5:30. For more details see: facebook.com/profile.php?id=61591145615554

2. **Unwined Wine and Eatery** for appetizers and happy hour in downtown Punta Gorda on Sullivan Street, Thursday, September 17th at 5:30. See unwinedpg.com for details.

Your Social Committee: Dianne Gooding [517-655-4563](tel:517-655-4563), Joy Perez [239-851-5743](tel:239-851-5743), Kim Cullinan 913-221-9197, and Carol Nasby 507-236-6704.

Member Meetings Save the Dates

September-No scheduled member meeting

October - Friday, October 16. Member Meeting. Location TBD.

10:00 am-Social time. 10:30 am -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 am-Social time. 10:30 am -12:00 Meeting/ Presentation on Sri Lanka outbound journey, by journey leader Maureen Butts.

Lunch following the 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.