



friendship force
SARASOTA

Friends Connection

Friendship Force of Sarasota



www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org
Friendship Force Sarasota Facebook

January, 2017

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Presidents Message

Happy New Year! Well, the New Year has arrived and I cannot help but hope that your New Year's evening was spent with family and friends. To begin, your board and I want to say thank you so very much for all your support and friendship during the past year.



In 2016 we increased our social activities so that everyone had the opportunity to spend time with our new members and really get to know one another outside our meeting times.

We had guests visit with us and we've gone to other locations worldwide with other clubs. It was a very busy year for Friendship Force Sarasota.

2017 will start out with our Global Arts Exchange in late January-early February, and will be so exciting for our club and an adventure for our new members to experience the many activities that have been planned.

I wish each of you a very healthy and enjoyable 2017 and look forward to seeing you at our January 5th meeting.

Thank you all again for your support to Friendship Force Sarasota, Barb and the board of directors.

Barb Hahn, 941-266-9802, barblhahn@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendars

Jan 5, 2017 Thurs	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station	7 p, Suncoast Aquatic Nature Center Assoc, Meredith Scarba, Exec Dir and staff; intro of who they are & what they do and info about the 2017 World Rowing Championships 3 pm Barbara Peterson home, 4427 Opal Court Sarasota, IN 34233
Jan 14, Sat	Global Exchange meeting, all engaged in exchange must attend	
Jan 17, Tues	Wine Group II	
Jan 19, Thurs	Wine Group I	
Jan 23	Film Talk	Dot Flynn (1 week early due to exchange)

Jan 25, Wed Jan 28-Feb 4	Board Meeting Global Exchange	7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room ED Judi Stratton
Feb 16, Thurs Feb 21, Tues Feb 22, Wed Feb 27, Mon	Wine Group I Wine Group II Board Meeting Film Talk	7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room Dot Flynn
Mar 1, Wed Mar 2, Thurs	World Friendship Day (1977 Pres Carter) Regular Meeting - Dinner	Waldemere Fire Station Jeanne Corcoran, Director Sarasota County Film & Entertainment Office
Mar 16, Thurs Mar 20, Mon Mar 22, Wed Mar 27, Mon	Wine Group I Wine Group II Board Meeting Film Talk	7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room Dot Flynn
April 6, Thurs Apr 16, Sun Apr 18, Tues April 20, Mon Apr 24, Mon Apr 26, Wed	Regular Meeting Easter Wine Group II Wine Group I Film Talk Board Meeting	7 p Waldemere Fire Station Dot Flynn 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room
May 4, Thurs May 16, Tues May 18, Thurs May 24, Wed May 29, Mon	Regular Meeting Wine Group II Wine Group I Board Meeting Film Talk	7 p Waldemere Fire Station 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room Dot Flynn
Jun 1, Thurs Jun 26, Mon	Regular Meeting Film Talk	7 p Waldemere Fire Station, last until 9/2017 Dot Flynn
Jul 31, Mon	Film Talk	Dot Flynn
Aug 19, Thurs Aug 23, Wed Aug 24, 1989 Aug 25-28 Aug 30-Sept 6 Aug 28, Mon	2 nd Annual pot luck supper Board Meeting 1 st mtg of FF SRQ, 28 yrs-met every other month in the beginning Global Conference, Manchester UK Outbound to Isle of Wight, UK Film Talk	Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room ED Marie Beck and Terri Holsinger Dot Flynn
Sept 6-13 Sept 7, Thurs Sept 25, Mon Sept 27, Wed	Outbound to Cornwall, UK Regular Meeting Film Talk Board Meeting	7 p Waldemere Fire Station Dot Flynn 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room
Oct 5, Thurs Oct 17, Tues Oct 18-25 Oct 19, Thurs Oct 25, Wed Oct 30, Mon	Annual Meeting Wine Group II Inbound from New Zealand Wine Group I Board Meeting Film Talk	7 p Waldemere Fire Station 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room Dot Flynn
Nov 2, Thurs Nov 8, Wed Nov 16, Thurs Nov 21, Tues Nov 23, Thurs Nov 27, Mon	Regular Meeting Board Meeting Wine Group I Wine Group II Thanksgiving Day Film Talk	7 p Waldemere Fire Station 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room Dot Flynn
December Dec 13, Wed	Holiday Dinner Party-no general mtg Board Meeting	TBA 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room

Dec 19, Tues
Dec 21, Thurs
Dec 25, Mon

Wine Group II
Wine Group I
Christmas Day

Committee Reports

Membership- Peggy Hayden - This has been a great year for our membership...thanks to **YOU**, our members, who are recruiting others to join our organization. May we have continued success in the new year. Speaking of new year, we are **looking for a couple of new members in the new year to be on our Membership Committee**, 1- to attend our meetings and make our visitors feel welcome (if you have to miss a meeting it is not a problem - we keep this task doable for our busy members) and 2 - to help write bios on our members for our "Meet Our Members" column in our monthly newsletter (we have an outline for easy phone interviews - it's fun!). If you are interested in **servicing on the Membership Committee, contact Peggy Hayden at 941-306-5197 or hayden.peg@gmail.com.**

Meet Our Members

Elaine Cyr (2016) joined FF at the invitation of Judy and Bob Joyce. Elaine and Joyce met at Loveland where they both volunteer. Elaine's interest in Loveland goes back many years when her sister became a student there and her parents moved to Venice. That also influenced her decision to move here when she retired as she loved the area and its emphasis on the arts.

She grew up in CT and moved to RI after college. She had a degree in teaching art and worked in the jewelry profession throughout her career; the last 14 years of which she was a private contractor working as a jewelry sales representative for various companies. She retired to Venice 4 years ago. She has combined her interest in jewelry with volunteering at Loveland in a number of ways. First, she has done a jewelry fundraiser every March for Loveland. She collects donated jewelry that Loveland sells to raise funds for this excellent program here in Sarasota County. If you would be willing to donate old jewelry to support this worthy effort, you can contact Elaine at Elaine.cyr@comcast.net or 941-922-7480 or 941-275-3770. She also volunteers as a beading instructor at Loveland. Jewelry made by the students is sold at various clubs/venues in the Venice area. This volunteer job has morphed into her work now as a substitute teacher in which she teaches a variety of skills. She also makes jewelry as a hobby.

FF attracted her because of her interest in traveling, especially more authentic experiences. Of the many places she has visited, trips to Italy are particular favorites. Most recently, she spent the Thanksgiving holiday with 7 other friends on a rented catamaran in the British Virgin Islands. She is interested in getting involved in FF, especially through involvement in exchange activities and social activities, including home hosting, day hosting and dinner hosting and participating in outbound exchanges.

Curt and Toni Feldmann (2014) learned about FF from Peggy Hayden. They are trying to be semi-retired in Sarasota for most of the year. They spend the balance of their time in the beautiful Finger Lakes Region of Upstate New York. Also, they make frequent visits to family in California and North Carolina. They love traveling and most often go to Spanish-speaking countries, as Curt works to broaden his vocabulary and conversational skills. They have been frequent visitors to Mexico, and other Spanish-speaking countries in the Americas including Costa Rica, Colombia and Guatemala. The Colombia trip was a FF exchange. Recently, they enjoyed a trip to Spain, the result of which was Curt being sold on spending more time in Europe. So they participated in a FF exchange to Somerset, England, which they absolutely loved. Toni's avocation is screenplay writing, and loves to add exotic world locations to her experience base so she can "write what she knows".

They have been involved not only in outbound exchanges but also inbound activities including the recent "mini-exchange" arranged by Reeta Dean following her exchange with the FL Suncoast FF to Mexico when people she met on her Mexican exchange came to Sarasota for a visit. Also, several of our newest members have been recruited by Curt through his involvement in Spanish classes and Spanish meetup groups.

Elaine Gross Rosen (2016) joined FF after hearing about it from her friend and neighbor, Peggy Hayden. FF interested Elaine, because it presents an opportunity to meet people from other countries, including entertaining them here on inbound exchanges and the opportunity for outbound exchanges. She is a New Jersey native. In her career, she worked in retail, real estate and finance. She and her husband, Stanley, are snowbirders. They spend their summers in New Jersey and their winters here. They moved to Sarasota in 2007.

Elaine has many interests. She is a bridge player, painter, and knitter. She loves to cook and entertain. She also enjoys the arts, nature and traveling. Although she just joined FF in November, she is already signed up to do dinner hosting during the global exchange at the end of January. She is looking forward to meeting more of our members.

Peggy Hayden, Membership Chair, hayden.peg@gmail.com, 941-306-5197



Film Talk now meets at **Burns Court Cinema on the 4th Mon of each month**. We send a note to our membership each month a few days ahead with the movie details. WE NEED YOU! In January, we will meet one week early, on Jan 23, due to Global Exchange.

Dot Flynn, dafsarasota@comcast.net or (407) 747-5251

Treasurer Reminder-Dues are Due. The most fun and greatest friends you've ever had for just \$25-it's a bargain! Be sure to update your information on the form for the new directory: cell, email, interests and hosting capability, address. Mail the form with your check or bring to December 15 Holiday Party or January 5 meeting. Form is included in email and also posted on our club web site, <http://www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org>



Friendly reminder from your treasurer, **Sandy Tuveson**



Database and Directory – Thanks to **Margaret Lewis** for her continued work on updating our database and directory. **Matthew Nidek, Director of Operations, Friendship Force Intl (FFI)**, encourages everyone to receive the quarterly newsletter, monthly catalogue of exchanges and leadership news. Click on this form: [FFI Email Subscription Form](#) We promise this is a secure link with no spam or viruses. You can choose what information you would like to receive. Subscribers will then receive a link in email to click and confirm. You can access a **current list of all clubs**

worldwide by clicking [here](#). There are 354 clubs worldwide. The link opens a PDF file that you can save to your tablet/computer. D stands for developing club and P is a partner-not a traditional home hosting environment.

If you have any updates including phone, email or address changes please send to mmlewis@comcast.net. An updated directory is attached to this email with **new members and members with updates highlighted**.

Social – **We need volunteers for the social committee**. Please contact **Mary Brand** and say yes to set up refreshments. Email/call **Mary Brand** at: 941-342-8540 or brandmary@comcast.net.



NEWS FROM THE WEB

Please email your stories and photos to **Terri**, for **posting on Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/Friendship-Force-of-Sarasota>. Send photos, club travel, documents for publishing to for posting on the club web site and newsletter <http://www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org/>

Terri Holsinger 317-753-2172, ffsrq@outlook.com

WINE TASTING GROUPS (FF members only)

Group 1 enjoyed tasting Cabernet Sauvignon wines from California, Argentina and Washington. The winner was Canyon Oaks Cabernet from California for \$4.99. What a bargain! After the tasting the group enjoyed eating the appetizers they had brought to share. Their next tasting will be on Thursday, January 19 at 5:30 at the home of Jack and Linda Vendeland.



Group 2 tasted Chardonnay wines from California, Argentina, France, Washington and South Africa. Their #1 rated wine was Fountain Grove Chardonnay Reserve from California which cost \$16.99. After the tasting they went to the Oriental Buffet for dinner. Their next tasting will be on Tuesday, January 17 at 5:30 at the home of Terri and Stan Holsinger.

Remember, if you are interested in joining a wine group or being on the alternate list, please contact Jack and Linda Vendeland, linvende@aol.com 941-342-6278

FF SRQ Exchanges - Inbound

IMPORTANT MEETING FOR ALL HOST AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE GLOBAL ARTS EXCHANGE

Mark your calendars now: a meeting for everyone involved in the global exchange on the arts in Sarasota will be held Saturday January 14, 3:00 at the home of Barbara Peterson, 4427 Opal Ct. At the meeting, you will receive the gift folders for your ambassadors, your exchange booklet and all the activities tickets for yourself and your guests, and you will have an opportunity to coordinate with other home hosts, day hosts, and dinner hosts and ask any questions you may have. Please RSVP to Judi Stratton and to Barbara Peterson.

LAST CHANCE: LUNCHEON and TICKET RESERVATIONS

Our club's second Global Themed Exchange, a repeat and refinement of the first one: **Experience the Arts of Greater Sarasota, FL USA #2, is scheduled for January 28 - February 4, 2017.** Take advantage of this opportunity to meet interesting and talented ambassadors and to attend some of Sarasota's premier arts performances at group ticket prices. We would be very pleased to have your participation.

Home, day and dinner hosts have been assigned to our 21 ambassadors, but back-up plans are always useful. If you would like to volunteer as a **back-up day host or home host**, please contact Barbara Peterson 941-925-3755 or Marie Beck 941-914-0283. If you prefer to be a **dinner host**, Connie Bergin 941-492-2222 would like to hear from you. If you are new to hosting, our committee members will help you learn how to be a good host.

Exchange activities and luncheons are always open to all club members. Reservations for the Welcome Luncheon at Rosebud's and the Farewell Luncheon at Mattison's Forty-One are open now through January 15. See the luncheons form to complete below. And below my signature, see also the last opportunity information for some of the exchange venues submitted by our Activities Chair Gloria Grenier.

THANK YOU to all our volunteers in whatever role you can play. Judi Stratton, ED, 941 497-5684, jaspette@comcast.net

Last Call for the Global Exchange Activities

Attendance at these activities is always available to all members-please join us. **Tickets are still available but you must bring your check to the January 5 meeting or mail to ARRIVE before January 6 to Ramona McGee**, 5316 Dominica Circle, Sarasota, FL 34233. **Make check payable to: Friendship Force Sarasota** and include which activity you are paying for in memo field.

Tickets available for:

Jan 29, 3:00 pm Tribute to Sinatra at Venice Performing Arts Center \$25

Jan 31, 1:30 pm LeBarge sightseeing cruise \$20

Feb 1, 10:30 am Asolo Rep at FSUPAC includes tour, lunch and matinee \$76

Feb 3, 8:00 pm Masterworks Concert at Van Wezel \$64

FF SRQ Exchanges – 2017

We have exchanges to think about for 2017. We are **going to Cornwall England and Isle of Wight, August 25 to Sept 6th**. You will hear more from the ED's for this exchange Marie Beck and Terri Holsinger. Watch your newsletter.

Our other exchange this year is an **INBOUND. Wellington New Zealand** will be coming **October 18-25**. I call this a regular exchange. Their club is coming to see Sarasota and so many of the wonderful things we have to offer, from beaches to many of the attractions that we regularly take our guests to.

The one thing I do **need** from you is someone who would **be interested in being the ED**. There are several in our club that will help. You do have a committee but someone needs to be in charge! I would love a volunteer! Call Barbara! We could talk about it to start with. If you look in the front of our directory, there are several pages of exchange inbound and outbound--all of them needed an ED!

Barbara Peterson, Exchange Coordinator, bandwpeterson@verizon.net or (941) 925-3755

Welcome at Rosebuds Steak & Seafood
Sunday, January 29, 11:45 am-2:15 pm

RSVP due January 15

2215 S Tamiami Trail
Osprey, FL 34229
<http://rosebudssarasota.com/>

Entrée choices:

- #1 **Steak** Kabob over rice
- #2 **Chicken** Parmesan over linguine
- #3 Herb-crusted baked **white fish** with baked potato
- #4 **Vegetarian** entrées by special request

Tossed Salad

Dessert: Crème Brulee

Non-alcoholic beverage

Cash Bar

Total price is \$25 including tax and tip

Farewell at Mattison's Forty-One
Friday, February 3, 12:00 Noon-2 pm

RSVP due January 15

7275 S Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34231
www.mattisons.com

Entrée choices:

- #1 Rosemary-honey glazed **salmon** with crispy fingerling potatoes, asparagus, citrus beurre blanc
- #2 **Pot Roast** reconstructed with braised cream potatoes, baby carrots, Cipollini onion cream, demi glaze
- #3 **Turkey** wrap: oven roasted turkey, gruyere cheese, house made bacon, tomato avocado
- #4 **Vegetarian:** spinach and mushroom omelet; goat & Monterey jack cheese, crispy fingerling potatoes

House salad: mixed field greens with toasted pine nuts, tomatoes and Gorgonzola tossed with house-made balsamic vinaigrette

Dessert: Assorted mini-desserts

Total price is \$27.50 including tax and tip

NAME(S): _____

of guests for Welcome x \$25 = \$ _____ Entrée # _____ Entrée # _____

of guests for Farewell x \$27.50 = \$ _____ Entrée # _____ Entrée # _____

SEND THIS RSVP by January 15 & CHECK Payable to: Friendship Force Sarasota

Mail to: Exchange Treasurer – Ramona McGee
5316 Dominica Circle, Sarasota, FL 34233
(941) 378-2094 or rmcgee0806@comcast.net