



# Friends Connection

## Friendship Force of Sarasota



friendship force  
INTERNATIONAL  
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[www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org](http://www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org)  
[Friendship Force Sarasota Facebook](#)

Aug-Sept, 2017

Volume 28, No 6

### Presidents Message

Welcome back to all our members – year-round and snow birds. I realize quite a few of you are still “north”, but for us “year-rounders” we are on the downhill side of the summer heat and humidity. September seems to be our real stormy month (tropical storms/hurricanes) so fingers crossed we sail through September without any type of activities.

When we get together for our first meeting from our summer break, we will have had our Wine and Beer Tasting in July and our 2nd Annual Pot Luck Supper in August. A lot of people worked very hard on these social get togethers and they were quite successful.

Next, we will be looking forward to our Inbound Journey from New Zealand in October. John Kestly and Donna Schaeffer and their committee have been working very hard on the arrangements and it should be a memorable and exciting exchange.

Patda DeLaTorre, our Vice President, has a good program scheduled for September. It should prove to be of interest to those of us who are able to attend the meeting.

December 14th will be our Holiday Dinner Party. An “interest” sign-up sheet will be at the September meeting, so that anyone who is thinking about attending is encouraged to sign up so that we know that you would like to be made aware as more details are finalized.

So, all of you snowbirds hurry back, we miss you and look forward to seeing you soon.  
Thank you, Barb

### Mark Your Calendars

Aug 25-28	Global Conf, Manchester UK
Aug 30-Sept 6	Outbound to Isle of Wight, UK ED Marie Beck
Sept 6-13	Outbound to Cornwall, UK ED Marie Beck
Sept 7, Thur	Regular Meeting 7 p Waldemere Fire Station, Save the Sea Birds
Sept 18, Mon	Film Talk, Dot Flynn
Sept 27, Wed	Board Meeting, 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse, Social Rm
Sept 30, Sat	NZ inbound Journey meeting, 3 pm
Oct 5, Thurs	Annual Meeting, 7 p Waldemere Fire Station
Oct 16, Mon	Film Talk, Dot Flynn
Oct 17, Tues	Wine Group II
Oct 19-26	Inbound from New Zealand
Oct 19, Thurs	Wine Group I
Oct 24, Tues	Wine Group III
Oct 11, Wed	Board Meeting, 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse, Social Rm, UPDATED
Nov 2, Thurs	Regular Meeting 7 p Waldemere Fire Station
Nov 8, Wed	Board Meeting, 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse, Social Rm
Nov 16, Thur	Wine Group I
Nov 20, Mon	Film Talk, Dot Flynn
Nov 21, Tue	Wine Group II
Nov 23, Thurs	Thanksgiving Day
Nov 28, Tue	Wine Group III
Dec 13, Wed	Board Meeting, 7 p, Camelot East Clubhouse, Social Rm
Dec 14, Wed	Holiday Dinner Party-no general mtg, Heritage Oaks
Dec 18, Mon	Film Talk, Dot Flynn

Dec 19, Tue	Wine Group II
Dec 21, Thur	Wine Group I
Dec 25, Mon	Christmas Day
Dec 26, Tue	Wine Group III

## Meet Our Members

### Jean Farley (2017)

Jean is a member who is rejoining FF. Actually, she became a member in the early days of our club's founding. She remembers those times when our club was struggling and how they all cheered when our membership reached 75 (we now have over 119 members and are the 3rd largest FF club in all of Friendship Force International). She was very active in our club, serving on our board as treasurer, going on exchanges (journeys) to Japan, Brazil, Berlin, Oklahoma City and Memphis and participating on inbound journeys as a home and day host. She thoroughly enjoyed FF, feeling that we attract a certain type of person – people who are giving/willing to help, who enjoy in depth travel experiences and who return from FF journeys with genuine impressions of the people and places that we visit. In 2008, circumstances resulted in her letting her membership drop. However, she stayed in touch with her many FF friends and decided to renew her membership. We are glad she did!

Jean is originally from the state of New York. She was born in Tarrytown and lived in various NY towns including Malone, Herkimer and Chestertown. In addition to being a mother of 3, she taught home economics and wrote a column for the local paper called, "More than Stitch and Stir". With her husband, she owned and operated a fuel oil distributorship in NY and then a smaller electric company in Florida. She moved to Sarasota in 1983. After her husband died, she moved to Japan where she lived with her daughter and her family for 4 years before returning to Sarasota. In 1998 a friend from long ago appeared on the scene and they were married until his death in 2016. Her favorite pastimes include bridge, friends, social gatherings, Netflix and FF.

She is looking forward to getting active in FF again. She cannot travel as before. However, she wants to be involved in our inbound journeys, attend our meetings and participate in our various social activities such as our wine clubs. Welcome, back, Jean.

### Mike Ries (2017)

Mike learned about FF from long-time FF member, Bonnie Frey, who happens to be Mike's sister. He decided to join, because wanted to meet new people and be involved in our journeys, both inbound and outbound. He has traveled in the past, mainly cruises...most recently a Mediterranean cruise.

Mike is originally from Ohio where he grew up and attended Wright State University, being in WSU's first graduating class. He moved to Sarasota in 1978. Over the years, he has been a CPA and financial advisor. A few years ago, he sold his business but still works about half time as a financial adviser.

**Patda DeLaTorre has scheduled another terrific presenter for Sept 7 meeting:** David Pilsner – Executive Director of "Save Our Seabirds", here in Sarasota <https://www.saveourseabirds.org/> Our mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and release sick and injured wild birds while educating our community about preventing injuries and preserving habitats. Birds that are unable to be returned to the wild are given permanent homes in our Wild Bird Learning Center.

## Social--A LOOK AHEAD Holiday Party, Dec 14

## Committee Reports

**Nominating Committee:** Katy Goodwin chair, Margaret Mills, past president, Joan Emrich, Leaf Wanless and Madri Wilson, members. Thanks to this team for volunteering.

### New Board January, 2018. Thanks to all who stepped up

President: Terri Holsinger  
Vice President: Marie Beck  
Secretary: Joan Emrich  
Treasurer: Michelle Pariseau

**Katy Goodwin**, Chair, Nominating Committee  
katygoodwin@msn.com, 941-379-9954

**Membership- Peggy Hayden** - This has been a busy summer for membership. 3 people have joined even though we do not have our regular meeting schedule in the summer. Plus, we've provided info to others at our August potluck whom we hope to see at our meetings this fall. Thanks to every one of YOU for your ongoing efforts to recruit others to join our great group. We will be having a new member orientation in early to mid-November. Be looking for information in the Fall.  
**Time to celebrate, we are at 109 members!!** Woot! We've added photos of new members to our newsletter. Please say hello and welcome them. If you have a photo of yourself to share, please email.

**Peggy Hayden at 941-306-5197** [hayden.peg@gmail.com](mailto:hayden.peg@gmail.com)

He is a member of Rotary and is in the same club as FF member, John Kestly. He has been very active in Rotary, having been president twice and treasurer many times as well as involvement with many of its activities. Like FF, Rotary has an exchange program, a feature of FF that he really likes. His pastimes include golf and pickle ball.

He is interested in getting involved in FF. He would like to serve as a day host on inbound journeys. He is also looking forward to participating in our outbound journeys. Welcome, Mike.

### Will Taylor (2017)

Will joined FF at the invitation of Barbara Maier. Like all FF members, he likes to travel and meet people from other countries. He has traveled a lot in Europe, both on his own and with group tours. He also traveled to Japan and Central America including Mexico and Panama. Some of his travel has been associated with his membership in the Air National Guard where he retired as a Lieutenant Colonel. He was a member along with his primary occupation in marketing with an electric utility company. He has also been a civilian commercial pilot and flight instructor.

He is originally from the Dayton, Ohio area. He spent his career in Ohio, vacationing in Sarasota over the years. He moved here in 2000, first as a snow birder and now lives here year-round. Pastimes include golfing and woodcarving. He also likes to bike and is in a group that rides 20 miles twice a week.

He is interested in getting involved in FF and learning more about our group including our inbound and outbound journeys. He is also looking forward to meeting more of our members and is hoping to go to the one or more of our summer social activities if his schedule permits. Help welcome Will to FF.



**Film Talk** now meets at **Burns Court Cinema on the 3rd Mon of each month** about 2 pm. **Next movie is Sept 18, discussion afterwards at Clasico at Palm and Main St.**

Hope to see you there. We send a note to our membership each month a few days ahead with the movie details. **WE NEED YOU!**

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

**Database and Directory** – Thank **Margaret Lewis** for her continued work on updating our database and directory. Updated directory is attached to email



Email or call Margaret if there are any corrections or updates. [mmlewis@comcast.net](mailto:mmlewis@comcast.net) or (941) 378-3553.

### Explore the new Friendship Force Intl (FFI)

website [www.friendshipforce.org](http://www.friendshipforce.org). **Matthew Nidek, Director of Operations**, 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](#) or see a complete list at: [2017 Journeys](#). There are 354 clubs worldwide. The link opens a PDF file that you can save to your tablet/computer.

### NEWS FROM THE WEB and NEWSLETTER



**The Friendship Force International new website** is up and running. Be sure to use: <https://friendshipforce.org>

Email your stories, documents and photos for **posting on Facebook and the club website and newsletter**. <https://www.facebook.com/Friendship-Force-of-Sarasota>

<http://www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org/>

With our new set of officers for Jan, 2018, **we are in urgent need of a newsletter editor and Facebook poster**. I can go through the responsibilities. Just give me a call.

We're looking for someone who is adventurous. This person should have some computer knowledge (on/off and copy/paste) and a sense of humor. The job comes with hands-on training, support and software if needed or you can use whatever tools you prefer. Please reply to Terri if you are interested. **PLEASE!** There can be plenty of hand holding, just say YES!

**Terri Holsinger 317-753-2172, [ffsrq@outlook.com](mailto:ffsrq@outlook.com)**

### WINE TASTING GROUPS (members only)



**The wine tastings will resume in October. To join**, contact Linda & Jack Vendeland ([linvende@aol.com](mailto:linvende@aol.com)) or (941) 342-6278

## FF SRQ Journeys

### HOSTS NEEDED

We will be hosting a Leadership Conference for presidents and other officers of Florida Friendship Force clubs in Sarasota on Saturday, October 14, 2017. I anticipate that there will be several requests for home hosting Friday 10/13 and/or Saturday 10/14, as several of our state club leaders will need to travel some distance. If you would like to host either or both dates, please sign up with our club president Barb Hahn at the September meeting and/or send me an email with the details of your availability and accommodations. Like several of our club members attending the World Conference and/or participating in our outbound journey, I will miss our September general meeting. See you all in October, when I will have more details about hosting for the 10/14 Conference and also the domestic outbound journey to Connecticut in October 2018.

**Judi Stratton**, FFI Field Rep, Florida Region

I would like to thank our coordinators for the Journeys that are taking place soon...Marie Beck for outbound Cornwall and the Isle of Wight and John Kestly and Donna Schaeffer and their team for all the work they are doing for the Wellington, NZ inbound from Oct 19-26.

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

## Good news for our 2018 Exchanges

1. Inbound **Florianopolis, Brazil** will be here March 17-24. They will go to Houston first. We need a **coordinator**.
2. Thanks for responding to my note about **Xalapa** (end of Jan) and **Mundo Maya do Tuxtla Gutierrez, Mexico** (beginning of Feb), our outbound journey. We currently have 16 members interested. **Bob and Judy Joyce** (YAY!!) are the coordinators. Contact them with any questions or if you're interested in traveling, [Jjoyce5@gmail.com](mailto:Jjoyce5@gmail.com) [bobjoyce@gmail.com](mailto:bobjoyce@gmail.com)
3. Judi Stratton is the coordinator for our **outbound** domestic journey to **Connecticut** in the fall of 2018. She will be taking the names and sending more info at a later date.

**The next step once we know a journey will take place is to find a Journey Coordinator (JC).** If this is something you would like to try, let me know. I certainly will help and have all the current materials that you would need. We will need a JC for incoming Brazil

## 2017 Journeys

1. **Outbound, AC Marie Beck** is putting final touches on the journey to the Isle of Wight and Cornwall, England, **August-30-Sept 13th**.
2. **Incoming, Wellington, New Zealand, Thurs Oct 19-26<sup>th</sup>, AC John Kestly**. Thanks to all members who signed up as home, day or dinner hosts.

Kay Consigny still **needs a few more people to be day hosts**. If you would like to make a new friend and show him/her around for a day (or more if you are available), please contact Kay at [kay.activities@hotmail.com](mailto:kay.activities@hotmail.com). She is on the UK journey now so response may be delayed.

See **sign-up sheet below** for all of the events with times and prices. There are openings for all events, but a couple need more people to sign up in order to make minimum numbers. We need **more** people for the farewell pig roast at North Jetty Pavilion and a few more people at both Selby and Spanish Point in order to get group discounts. Other events (welcome breakfast and RCAD tour) have maximum capacities and could get closed to reservations. So.....Get those reservations in and thank you for your prompt attention. Sign-up sheet below.

**There is a NZ walk through for all involved** in the incoming journey on Sat, Sept 30, 2017, 3:00 pm at Gary Debbie Kuhns home, 4541 Chimney Creek Dr, Sarasota.

Should attend: planning committee, home, day and dinner hosts. Most important for home hosts and those who have not participated in an exchange before. If you can't make the meeting, your committee liaison will contact you to review the relevant material some other way.

Please RSVP for meeting by Sept 22 to [jkestly@gmail.com](mailto:jkestly@gmail.com), [sandytuveson@yahoo.com](mailto:sandytuveson@yahoo.com), Debbie Kuhns ([ruffabowow@hotmail.com](mailto:ruffabowow@hotmail.com)), Kay Consigny [kay.activities@hotmail.com](mailto:kay.activities@hotmail.com) or Michelle Pariseau [chipariseau@gmail.com](mailto:chipariseau@gmail.com)

Many of the planning committee will be in the UK during the September meeting. Ciao for now! John



Say hello to **new members** at our next gathering.

Your editor would appreciate **member photos**  
 Try for head shots so they show up well in the newsletter.  
 Editor can also crop and enlarge.

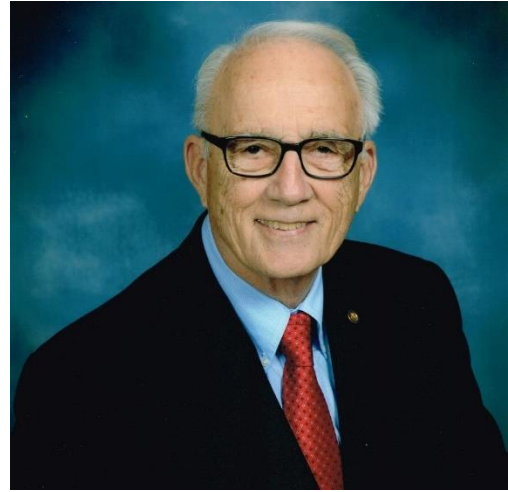
Jean Farley



Mike Ries



Will Taylor



### OFFICERS

President	Barb Hahn	941-266-9802	<a href="mailto:barblhahn@gmail.com">barblhahn@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Patda Delatorre	941-373-1462	<a href="mailto:Patda1@mindspring.com">Patda1@mindspring.com</a>
Secretary	Margaret Lewis	941-378-3553	<a href="mailto:mmlewis@comcast.net">mmlewis@comcast.net</a>
Treasurer	Sandy Tuveson	941-313-1098	<a href="mailto:sandytuveson@yahoo.com">sandytuveson@yahoo.com</a>

### COMMITTEES

Database	Margaret Lewis	941-378-3553	<a href="mailto:mmlewis@comcast.net">mmlewis@comcast.net</a>
Exchange Coordinator	Barbara Peterson	941-925-3755	<a href="mailto:bandwpeterson@verizon.net">bandwpeterson@verizon.net</a>
Film Talk	Dot Flynn	941-922-7679	<a href="mailto:dafsarasota@comcast.net">dafsarasota@comcast.net</a>
Membership	Peggy Hayden	941-306-5197	<a href="mailto:Hayden.peg@gmail.com">Hayden.peg@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter/Web/FB	Terri Holsinger	317-753-2172	<a href="mailto:ffsrq@outlook.com">ffsrq@outlook.com</a>
Marketing	Kay Consigny	941-923-8700	<a href="mailto:kay.activities@hotmail.com">kay.activities@hotmail.com</a>
Social	Kathy Johnson Gregg	585-315-8880	<a href="mailto:senoritakmj82@gmail.com">senoritakmj82@gmail.com</a>
Wine Tasting Groups	Linda & Jack Vendeland Debbie & Gary Kuhns	941-342-6278 863-781-4344	<a href="mailto:linvende@aol.com">linvende@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:ruffabowow@hotmail.com">ruffabowow@hotmail.com</a>

# Friendship Force Sarasota Inbound Journey from Wellington, New Zealand

## Schedule

### Thur, Oct 19

9:58 pm Hosts pick up Ambassadors at SRQ, AA Flight 5227

### Fri, Oct 20

9:30 am Welcome breakfast at Der Dutchman, presentation on Amish/Mennonite community drive through Pinecraft Park \$15

Following welcome breakfast, tour Ringling Museum \$15

### Sat Oct 21-Morning free time with hosts, suggestions: farmers market, beaches

3:00 pm tour/tasting at Siesta Key Rum free

4:00 pm downtown walking tour

6:00 pm meet at LeBarge

6:30 pm LeBarge, boat tour of Sarasota Bay with music and cash bar \$25

### Sun Oct 22-free time with hosts (possibly SunFest Venice)

6:00 pm hosted dinner parties for ambassadors and home hosts

### Mon Oct 23 Participants will be split into two groups

10:00 am Group I tour Ringling College, meet at Keating Center

Group II Tour Selby Gardens, \$18 per person

*Lunch included for ambassadors at the Ringling College student dining hall \$7*

*Comfortable closed toe walking shoes recommended for College tour*

1:00 pm Group I Tour Selby Gardens, \$18

Group II Tour Ringling College, meet at Keating Center

### Tue Oct 24

10:30 am Meet at Solomon's Castle, 4533 Solomon Rd, Ona, FL

Tour and lunch included \$25

*To follow: optional (suggested) tour Myakka River Park-stops at canopy walkway, 1st bridge for alligators, boardwalk and gift shop. Drive through National Cemetery on SR 72 on the way home if desired.*

### Wed Oct 25-Morning free time to relax and pack for tomorrow's departure

*Lunch on own with hosts or optional meet at Evie's Spanish Point Tiki Bar*

1:00 pm Meet at Historic Spanish Point for group tour \$7

*At conclusion of tour, make your way to North Jetty Picnic Pavilion with possible stops (time permitting) at Tervis Tumbler Outlet, drive down Casey Key, Downtown Venice, and/or Nokomis Beach.*

5:00 pm meet at North Jetty Picnic Pavilion at the south end of Casey Key Road

Wine and beer and social

5:45 pm Farewell dinner is a catered pig roast (Spanferkel) with trimmings \$25

*Farewell ceremonies to follow*

*Optional Drum Circle at dusk at Nokomis Beach*

### Thur Oct 26 am-Ambassadors depart for Miami by bus, time and place to be determined

**Note:** unless otherwise noted, dinners will be with hosts, hosted parties or ambassadors take out hosts one evening to be mutually determined.

# Friendship Force Sarasota Inbound Journey from Wellington, New Zealand

## Reservations due by Fri, Sept 28

If questions, contact: Journey Coordinator, John Kestly, 941-330-6106, [jkestly@gmail.com](mailto:jkestly@gmail.com)  
Program Team, Donna Schaeffer, 908-577-0974, [rdontrip@hotmail.com](mailto:rdontrip@hotmail.com)  
Debbie Kuhns, 863-781-4344, [ruffabowow@hotmail.com](mailto:ruffabowow@hotmail.com)

Note: These people will be journeying in the U.K. from 8/28 to 9/20. If you have a pressing problem during this time, try Sandy Tuveson or Barb Peterson

ACTIVITIES - Please indicate activities you will attend by entering the # attending for each activity and other applicable information, then enclosing a check for the total cost of all activities when returning this sheet. RSVP must be received by Sept 28, 2017. It's very important to let us know if you have extra passes to Ringling Museum, Selby, or Spanish Point to help our members out.

### Fri, Oct 20

**9:30 Welcome breakfast at Der Dutchman** \$15

# attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Total for this activity \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Following welcome breakfast, **Ringling Museum** \$15

# attending: \_\_\_\_\_ total for this activity \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Will attend Ringling but use membership card for free admission # \_\_\_\_\_

Will attend Ringling and use membership pass to get others in for free - # of passes \_\_\_\_\_

### Sat, Oct 21

3:00 Siesta Key Rum (no fee)

# attending: \_\_\_\_\_

6:00 LeBarge boat tour of Sarasota Bay \$25

# attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Total for this activity \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Mon Oct 23

**Ringling College** tour (no fee) Preferred time **(circle)** 10:00 am **OR** 1:00 pm

# attending: \_\_\_\_\_

**Selby Gardens** \$18

Preferred time **(circle)** 10:00 am **OR** 1:00 pm

# Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ total for this activity \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Will attend Selby but use membership card for free admission # \_\_\_\_\_

Will attend Selby and use membership pass to get others in for free - # of passes \_\_\_\_\_

### Tue Oct 24

**10:30 Solomon's Castle** (includes lunch) \$25

# attending: \_\_\_\_\_ total for this activity \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Wed Oct 25

**1:00 Historic Spanish Point** \$7

# attending: \_\_\_\_\_ total for this activity \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Will attend Spanish Point but use membership card for free admission # \_\_\_\_\_

Will attend Spanish Point and use membership pass to get others in for free - # of passes \_\_\_\_\_

**5:00 Farewell Party at North Jetty Park** \$25

# attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Total for this activity \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL of enclosed check for ALL activities selected above \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**SEND THIS RSVP form by Friday, September 28**

**CHECK Payable to: Friendship Force Club of Sarasota**

**Mail to: Exchange Treasurer – Gary Kuhns, 4541 Chimney Creek Drive, Sarasota FL 34235**

**NOTE: There is limited space for some events.**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_