

*Friends Connection*  
**Friendship Force of Sarasota**  
[www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org](http://www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org)

**June, 2011**

President: J & L Vendeland 941-342-6278

[www.linvende@aol.com](mailto:www.linvende@aol.com)

Vice Pres: Katy Goodwin

Secretary: Debbie Boyd

Treasurer: Wayne Peterson

Publicity: **position available**

Membership: Lee and Gary Anderson

Directory: Gary Anderson

**Presidents' Message**

Another summer is approaching and we have joined the happy army of snow birds on our annual trek north to cooler climates and family reunions. We leave the club in the capable hands of Katy Goodwin who has arranged some fun activities for the summer months.

We have been members of Friendship Force for 12 years. In these 12 years we have come to realize that our Friendship Force members, who do not hesitate to open their homes to strangers during our exchanges and participate in home stays in faraway places, are very special people. We know that's what makes Friendship Force people special.

We have made many Friendship Force friends during these 12 years. We are grateful that we discovered Friendship Force and we will miss all of you this summer.

Have a fun and safe summer. We look forward to reconnecting in October.  
Jack and Linda

**Volume 22, No.6**

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Sister Cities: Terry Neuss

Sunshine: Marty Swenson

Social: Reeta Dean, Betty Kuhns,  
Barb Welch

Web Administrator: Linda Vendeland

**Calendar of Events\*\*more info inside\*\***

June 2	General Meeting at Waldemere Fire Station and International Dinner **
June 27	Board Meeting 7PM at home of Ramona McGee
July 7	Summer Happening – Mixon lunch and Tour**
July	<b>No Board Meeting</b>
August	<b>No General Meeting</b>
August 22	Board Meeting at home of Nancy and Dick Rehbock
September 1	General Meeting at Waldemere Fire Station



**Look What's Happening!**

- It's official! Our exchanges for the year 2012 will be: outbound to Tirana, Albania in or about September and inbound from Bogotá, Columbia in or about June. We are looking for Exchange Directors for these exchanges. Please let Jack and Linda know if you are interested.
- We are looking for a **Publicity Chairperson** to serve for the rest of 2011. If you are interested in this opening on the Board, please contact Katy Goodwin.

## All-Florida Friendship Force Conference ----- October 29, 2011

Our Club will host the All-Florida Conference this year. It will be held at the Fruitville Library on Saturday, October 29 from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. There will be a "Meet and Greet" supper on Friday, October 28 at Whispering Sands waterfront lounge beginning at 6:00 pm and a "Farewell Dinner" on Saturday evening.

All the details will be in the next FFS Newsletter.

Please mark your calendar with these important dates.

### **INTERNATIONAL DINNER \*\*\* June 2**

Social Hour 5PM – Dinner 6PM



Our June General Meeting will be combined with the Annual International Dinner at the Waldemere Fire Station. Everyone is asked to bring a dish for 8 of your favorite cuisine from somewhere in the world. If you know any prospective members, invite them to join us. Costumes add to the festivity of the evening, so this is your chance to show off some of your souvenirs you've collected on your trips. Soft drinks, paper goods and silverware will be provided. The

Social Committee of Reeta Dean, Betty Kuhns, and Barb Welch will be your hostesses for this evening. The program will be given by our returning Brazil exchange members.

**For reservations, call or email Nancy Rehbock at [rnrehbock@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rnrehbock@tampabay.rr.com) or 941-896-7958 and let her know how many are coming and if you are bringing a salad, entrée, or dessert for 8. Please make a small card with the name of your dish to be placed with it on the serving table. Please bring serving utensils for your dishes. If you can come early to help set up or stay late to help clean up, you will be most appreciated! As always, no alcohol is permitted in the Fire Station.**

**Please sign up now. We don't want you to come to the meeting at 7pm and have missed a great dinner and an opportunity to socialize!**

### NEWS FROM THE WEB



Friendship Force of Sarasota, Florida is now on Facebook! Nancy Rehbock and I are the administrators and we will be posting photos along with information on upcoming events and other items of interest. So, be sure to visit our page and click on the "like" button. You can access our Facebook page from our web site. Just click on the

Facebook icon on the bottom of the web site page and you will be guided to our Facebook page. We hope to see you on Facebook!

[www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org](http://www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org)

Linda Vendeland, Web Administrator E-Mail [linvende@aol.com](mailto:linvende@aol.com)

### **Exchanges**

Inbound

Morganton, North Carolina -- November 6-11

No new information about this exchange. The EDs are Gary and Lee Anderson and they are spending the summer months up north.



FF "SUMMER HAPPENING" - TOUR AND LUNCH AT MIXON FRUIT FARM  
THURSDAY, JULY 7 - 11:00 AM

Join your FF friends this summer on a tram tour and buffet lunch at Mixon Fruit Farms, Bradenton, FL. We live in a state known for its orange groves, but have you really ever been through one? Here's your chance! Mixon will take you on a narrated one hour tram tour (open with a covered top) through their groves, their wildlife park, their gardens and huge acreage, then deliver you to the Honeybell Room for a buffet lunch consisting of assorted sandwiches, potato salad, beverages and ice cream. You will have an opportunity to view their video, enjoy a wine and juice tasting and browse in their deli and gift shop. All this will be yours for \$16.00 per person (tour and lunch).

This is the date of our regular monthly meeting - the first Thursday in the month - so I hope a lot of you will take advantage of the opportunity to visit this huge fruit farm that has been in operation for 72 years - right here in the heart of Bradenton. Let's support our local community and learn more about what is right in our own back yard. It might be something we would consider for our incoming exchange groups

Fill out the coupon below and mail your check to Katy Goodwin. Judi Stratton will be taking names on a sign-up sheet for the outing at the International Dinner meeting, but you must mail your check and coupon to Katy at the address below. It promises to be a fun social get-together and we hope to see you there.

Directions to Mixon Fruit Farm

From I-75 get off at Exit 220 - State Route 64. Turn west heading into Bradenton. Route 64 becomes Manatee Ave. After crossing the Braden River, turn left on 27th St. East heading south. 27th St. E. is also called Robert Clemente Memorial Blvd. Mixon Fruit Farm is on the left hand corner of the junction of 27th St. East and 26th Ave. East. The address is 2525 27th St. East.

Come on Board for the SUMMER HAPPENING!!!!	
Thursday July 7 – 11 AM	
Name _____	Ph No. _____
Tour and Lunch - \$16 per person \$16x _____ = \$ _____	
Total amount enclosed \$ _____	
Please make check out to and mail to Katy Goodwin, 4505 Lake Vista Drive, Sarasota 34233 <b>Deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>.</b>	