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SARASOTA

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Friends Connection

Friendship Force of Sarasota

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Fall-September, 2014

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President's Message

It was so good to see so many of you at our September meeting! Our guest speakers, Joanne and Richard Collins, entertained us with an interesting talk and show of their trips to Australia. During our meeting we saw how effective and beneficial our new roving mike is in being able to hear every member as they speak; a wonderful addition to our collection of audio and visual devices.



This month our VP, Reeta Dean, will be interviewing our new slate of officers: President Mary McClendon, Vice President Barbara Hahn, Secretary Irma Blake and Treasurer Dona Brannan. We will be "getting to know" our leaders. Judi Stratton will be giving a short report on the recent All-Florida Friendship Force Conference in Orlando which six of us attended. It featured Allison Lindsey, FFI Educational Project Coordinator and Sandy Gourdine, Florida Field Representative.

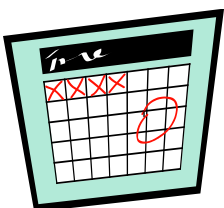
We continue to welcome back our members from "up north" and look forward to an interesting inbound exchange from our friends in Albuquerque in November, new films to see with our Film Talk Group and the return of our two Wine Tasting Groups.

Cheers! Katy

Calendar of Events

Thurs, Oct 2	Regular Meeting – Waldemere Fire Station (Elections)	7 pm
Oct 6-27	Outbound to New Zealand	Judi Stratton, ED
Tues, Oct 28	Board Meeting	7 pm, Lorrie Holm host
Thurs, Nov 6	Regular Meeting – Waldemere Fire Station	7 pm
Nov 11-18	Inbound from Albuquerque, NM	Vivian McNamara, ED
Tues, Nov 25	Board Meeting	7 pm
Thurs, Dec 4	Annual Holiday Dinner & 25 th Anniversary Celebration, Mattison's 41	6-9 pm
Feb 18-25, 2015	Inbound from Isle of Wight, England	Terri Holsinger, ED
Sept, 2015	Outbound to Netherlands	Peggy Hayden, ED

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



October 2, 2014 Meeting, 7-9p. Come meet the new officers who will start their term in January. We will have the election and then get the chance to interview them. Irma, the incoming secretary, has been interviewed before, so she will instead take this opportunity to tell us about the Semester at Sea trip that some of our members took recently. This is our chance to learn about those wonderful people who have volunteered to do the basic work of our club. Don't forget to thank them.

November 6, 2014 Meeting, 7-9p. We will have a description of how **fair trade** retail operates. Sandy Ramsey of Artisan's Marketplace, deals with small craftspeople from all over the world and will be here to tell us about the work of these people and the value of supporting fair trade operations.

December 4, 2014 Meeting, 6-9 PM, We will have our holiday party and celebrate our 25th anniversary at Mattison's 41. More details later.

Committee Reports

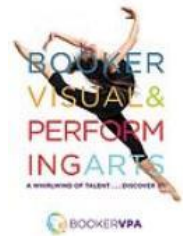


Sunshine Corner –

Dear Katy and all of our friends at the Sarasota Friendship Force Club, Thank you for thinking of us and sending positive thoughts our way up here in IN. We look forward to seeing all of our Sarasota friends again by January.

Hugs, Mary and Walt Proudly

Babe Baptist has 30 tickets for the Booker Performing Arts production of Hairspray on Wed. April 15, 2015. Babe will have tickets at the FF meetings. The award-winning Booker High School Visual and Performing Arts program offers high quality pre-professional arts education for students who exhibit talent and passion in one of its five disciplines: Dance, Digital & Motion Design, Music, Theatre and Visual Art.



Highly qualified faculty, state-of-the-art studios and facilities and intensive training and performance activities combine to create a unique environment that nurtures young artists for their future.



Film Talk will continue to meet on the second Wednesday of each month with members taking turns selecting the movie and restaurant. **Wednesday, Oct 8** is our next movie. We plan to attend a movie at Burns Court that afternoon; hopefully about 4 pm. Discussion will follow at a local restaurant. Details to follow. Please contact **Dotty Flynn** dafsarasota@comcast.net or **Betty Kuhns** bets.bk@gmail.com if you would like to be added to their contact list.

NEWS FROM THE WEB

Check out the photos of the lunch on Bob's Train in our Web Site Photo Gallery. www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org. Linda Vendeland, Web Administrator linvende@aol.com



WINE TASTING GROUPS for members only!

Wine Group I will have their tasting on October 16 at the home of Nancy & Dick Rehbock. Wine Group II's tasting will be on October 20 at the home of Margaret Mills. If anyone is interested in joining a wine group, please contact us via e-mail or phone. Jack and Linda Vendeland, linvende@aol.com - 941-342-6278

Exchanges - Inbound

Albuquerque, New Mexico – November 11-18, 2014 – Vivian McNamara, ED

The Albuquerque Exchange is shaping up nicely. It will be a fun exchange and if you haven't gotten involved in an exchange before, this is a good way to get involved and meet some wonderful Ambassadors from Albuquerque. Call Vivian McNamara at 941-412-9102. Don't forget to RSVP for activities and luncheons.

RSVP forms attached to email to sign up for activities, welcome and farewell luncheons.

Isle of Wight (IoW), UK – February 18-25, 2015 – We **need volunteers and leaders** to make this a memorable inbound. Needed: day hosts, dinner hosts, home hosts plus a **lead person for activities and home hosts**. Please contact me by phone or email. Terri Holsinger, ED, terriholsinger@hotmail.com or 317-753-2172. Thanks so much. We are in planning with Alan Logan, ED from IoW.

We have 6 couples and 14 singles (20 total) **Sign-up sheets will be at Oct 6 meeting.**

Exchanges - Outbound

Netherlands Exchange: September 2015 Netherlands Exchange & Post Exchange Tour – SIGN UP TODAY!

August 30-September 5 (August 29 being travel day to the Netherlands) in Zutphen, a town with medieval history in eastern Netherlands. Likely fly to Amsterdam & train to Zutphen.

3 or 4 days of activities with entire group (details forthcoming)
2 or 3 free days to explore (options forthcoming)

Cost: TBD

Post Exchange Tour: 11 days total, September 6-16. Tour arranged especially for us by David McGuffin of Exploring Europe, Inc. (Ramona & Katy + other FF members have traveled with him a number of times & recommend him.)

October 2015 Netherlands Exchange & Post Exchange Tour –SIGN UP TODAY!

Information Session: Sunday, November 9, 2014, 7 PM at home of Ramona McGee. **Please RSVP to Peggy Hayden at hayden.peg@gmail.com.** Come hear about this trip, see a DVD & handout prepared by our tour operator & find out what you need to do to participate in this great trip.

Netherlands Exchange: August 30-September 5 (August 29 being travel day to the Netherlands for most participants) in Zutphen, a town with medieval history in eastern Netherlands. Likely fly to Amsterdam & transport to Zutphen.

- 3 or 4 days of activities with entire group (details forthcoming)
- 2 or 3 free days to explore (options forthcoming)
- Cost: TB D

Air Travel: To be arranged individually given the # of people who want to combine this exchange with other travel plans before or after the exchange &/or post exchange tour.

Post Exchange Tour: 11 days total, September 6-16. Tour arranged especially for us by David McGuffin of Exploring Europe, Inc. (Various FF members have traveled with him a # of times & recommend him.)

- 1 day - Tour guide picks us up in Zutphen. Travel to Hamburg for sightseeing & overnight.
- 3 days - Travel to Berlin. 3 nights in Berlin with sightseeing & optional day trips
- 1 day - Travel to Dresden & sightsee. Overnight in Dresden.
- 2 days - Travel to Prague. Sightsee. 2 nights in Prague.
- 3 days - Travel to Munich. 3 nights in Munich with sightseeing & optional day trips, e.g., day trip to Salzburg, day trip to Castle Neuschwanstein, or morning at Dachau.
- 1 day - Our tour ends. Fly home from Munich.

Cost: TBD

FIRST PRIORITY will be given to those who do BOTH legs of trip (exchange AND post exchange tour). Nevertheless, if only interested in Netherlands Exchange, please sign-up anyway as we may end up with a combination of members who want to do exchange only and members who want to do both exchange and tour.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS EXCHANGE – Email Peggy Hayden at hayden.peg@gmail.com and let her know that you are interested in:

- Exchange only OR
- Exchange AND in post exchange tour