

Friends Connection
Friendship Force of Sarasota
www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org
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December, 2015

Volume 26, No 11

President:	Mary McClendon marymc5936@verizon.net
Vice-President	Barb Hahn
Secretary:	Irma Blake
Treasurer:	Dona Brannan
Membership	
Database & Directory	Margaret Lewis
Club Expansion & Mentoring	Gary Kuhns

Editor:	Terri Holsinger ffsrq@outlook.com
Web Administrator:	Linda Vendeland
Social:	Grace Rowland
Publicity:	Lorrie Holm
Sunshine:	Margaret Mills
Exchange Coordinator:	Judi Stratton
Past President:	Katy Goodwin

2015 President's Message

Hello friends, I want to take this opportunity to thank each of you who have been a part of FFSRQ during my presidency in 2015. Your part in our organization helps make it the best in Florida.

I have been looking forward to this last newsletter of my term as president of FFSRQ. I have never considered myself president material. I would much rather be a worker bee. I received all the help and encouragement anyone could want or expect. FFSRQ is a fine group of travel friends. The

HAPPY goals of world peace and friendship are worthy to pursue. It is my wish for the club to grow and prosper. For that to happen everyone needs to do their part. As I say farewell not only as president but also as a member, I want you to know that my purpose in being a member has expired. I am departing in friendship. On Saturday, December 5, Phil Insinga and I committed to each other and Phil will be my partner as we travel this last chapter of our lives.

NEW I hope paths with friends I have made in FFSRQ will intersect often. I wish Barb Hahn incoming president two fruitful years as your president. She has imagination, creativity and a very talented staff who will work for FF SRQ.

YEAR! Farewell to all, Mary McClendon, marymc5936@verizon.net or (941) 923-3785

2016 Presidents Message

This past Thursday evening's 2015 Holiday Dinner Party was my last official function as FF Sarasota's Vice-President. I thank the club for the opportunity to serve in the vice-president position and hope that over the course of 2015, the programs and the Summer Happening were enjoyable, provided information and relaxation to all who attended.



Friendship Force Sarasota is a strong club that is recognized by FF International and around the world as a destination! We are so very fortunate to have as members people who are dedicated to the mission of Friendship Force and participate to their fullest possible extent. Your service can be through representing FF SRQ in worldwide travel, having guests stay in your homes and even preparing dinner parties for home hosts and their guests.

I look forward to the coming year with great joy and excitement and just know in my soul that we will continue growing, learning, sharing and enjoying the coming events and programs together. Thanks Mary for stepping up when requested and being our president in 2015.



Thank you all for the opportunity you have all given me, Barb Hahn, 941-266-9802, barblhahn@gmail.com

Friendship Force Sarasota 2016 Officers and Committees

POSITION	NAME	PHONE	EMAIL
President	Barb Hahn	941-266-9802	barblhahn@gmail.com
Vice President	Lorrie Holm	215-805-0558	Lorrie.holm@gmail.com
Secretary	Margaret Lewis	941-378-3553	mmlewis@comcast.net
Treasurer	Sandy Tuveson	941-378-0914	sandytuveson@yahoo.com

COMMITTEES

Database	Margaret Lewis	941-378-3553	mmlewis@comcast.net
Exchange Coordinator	Barbara Peterson	941-925-3755	bandwpeterson@verizon.net
Film Group	Dot Flynn	941-922-7679	dafsarasota@comcast.net
Membership	Peggy Hayden	941-306-5197	Hayden.peg@gmail.com
Newsletter	Terri Holsinger	317-753-2172	terriholsinger@hotmail.com
Publicity	Lorrie Holm	215-805-0558	Lorrie.holm@gmail.com
Social	Mary Brand, w/ 3-4 people	941-342-8540	brandmary@comcast.net
Sunshine			
Website	Donna Schaeffer	908-577-0974	rdontrip@hotmail.com
Wine Tasting	Linda/Jack Vendeland- Debbie Kuhns	941-342-6278 863-781-4344	linvende@aol.com ruffabowow@hotmail.com

Mark Your Calendars

Dec 16, Wed	Film Group	Dot Flynn
Dec 17, Thurs	Wine Group I	Katy Goodwin home
Dec 21, Mon	Wine Group II	4:30 Margaret Mills
Jan, 7, 2016 Thurs	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station	7 pm
Jan 18, Mon	Wine Group II	
Jan 20, Wed	Film Talk	Dot Flynn
Jan 21, Thurs	Wine Group I	
Jan 27, Wed	Board Meeting	7 pm Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room
Feb 4, Thurs	Global Dinner (during regular meeting)	7 pm Waldemere Fire Station
Feb 15, Mon	Wine Group II	
Feb 17, Wed	Film Talk	Dot Flynn
Feb 18, Thurs	Wine Group I	
Feb 24, Wed	Board Meeting	7 pm, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room
Feb 25-Mar 2, 2016	Inbound from Western North Carolina	Phillip Price, ED
Mar 1, Tues	World Friendship Day (1977 Pres Jimmy Carter)	
Mar 3, Thurs	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station	7 pm
Mar 14-17, 2016	Inbound Stopover – Belgian Coast Club	Gary & Debbie Kuhns, EDs
Mar 16, Wed	Film Talk	Dot Flynn
Mar 17, Thurs	Wine Group I	
Mar 19-20 th , Sat-Sun	12 th Annual Folk Festival-Oscar Scherer State Park	
Mar 21, Mon	Wine Group II	
Mar 27, Sun	Easter	
Mar 30, Wed	Board Meeting	7 pm, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room
Apr 7, Thurs	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station	7 pm
Apr 7-27, 2016	Outbound to FF Greater Taipei	Reeta Dean & Terri Holsinger, EDs
Apr 18, Mon	Wine Group II	
April 20, Tues	Film Talk	Dot Flynn
April 21, Thurs	Wine Group I	
April 27, Wed	Board Meeting	7 pm, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room



May 5, Thurs May TBA May 18, Wed May 25, Wed	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station Wine Groups Film Talk Board Meeting	7 pm Dot Flynn 7 pm, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room
Jun 2, Thurs Jun 15, Wed Jul 20, Wed Aug 17 Wed Aug 24, Wed	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station Film Talk Film Talk Film Talk Board Meeting	7 pm (last mtg until 9/1/2016) Dot Flynn Dot Flynn Dot Flynn 7 pm, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room
Sept 1, Thurs Sept 15-18 Sept 21, Wed	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station FFI World Conference Film Talk	7 pm Marrakesh, Morocco Dot Flynn
Oct 6, Thurs Oct TBA Oct 17, Mon Oct 19, Wed Oct 20, Thurs Oct 26, Wed Oct 2016	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station All Florida Conference, FF Suncoast Wine Group II Film Talk Wine Group 1 Board Meeting (annual meeting) Outbound Western North Carolina	7 pm Annual Mtg, Elections Tampa/St Pete Dot Flynn 7 pm, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room Donna Schaeffer, ED
Nov 3, Thurs Nov 9, Nov 16, Wed Nov 16, Wed Nov 17, Thurs Nov 21, Mon Nov 24, Thurs	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station Inbound, Cornwall England Board Meeting Film Talk Wine Group I Wine Group II Thanksgiving	7 pm Ramona McGee, ED 7 pm, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room Dot Flynn Enjoy
Dec TBA Dec 15, Thurs Dec 19, Mon Dec 28, Wed	Holiday Dinner Party Wine Group I Wine Group II Board Meeting	 7 pm, Camelot East Clubhouse – Social Room

Committee Reports

Treasurer Dona Brannan—It's that time of year: **2016 Dues are due by January 1st.**

Dues of \$25 will be collected at the regular meeting by our 2016 Treasurer Sandy Tuveson **OR**--if you wish--can be mailed to:

Dona Brannan
4147 Oakhurst Circle West
Sarasota, FL 34233



Please use the membership form attached in email to submit your dues.

Database—**Margaret Lewis** asks that you check your information included in the attached 2016 Directory. This data will be used in the print version distributed to our membership. Please send your updates to Margaret at mmlewis@comcast.net or call (941) 378-3553. If your information changes at any time, such as address, cell phone or email, please notify Margaret. Thanks

Welcome to new member **Sara Jones**, who lives in Osprey. Her interests include tennis, Tai Chi and Arts & Crafts. She would like to participate in Exchange and Social activities. YAY!
Also welcome **Karen Bush**, a friend of Mike Trautman. Her interests include travel, cooking and photography. Karen still works but is interested in supporting inbound exchange needs. Sara and Karen's contact info is included in the attached directory.

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

NEWS FROM THE WEB



Donna Schaeffer is our webmaster and Facebook administrator for 2016. Please email your travel and group photos to Donna at Rdontrip@hotmail.com. We wish her the best of luck in this new endeavor. Check out the photos from the Holiday Party, wow! <http://www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org/sarasota.htm> and <https://www.facebook.com/Friendship-Force-of-Sarasota>

WINE TASTING GROUPS (FF members only)

Wine Group 1 tasting was held at Donna Schaeffer's on Thursday, November 19. The group tasted a variety of Bordeaux wines. Following the tasting, they had dinner at La Creperie on St. Armands Circle. Their next tasting will be on **Thursday, December 17 at Katy Goodwin's**.



Wine Group 2 tasting was held on Monday, November 16 at the home of Sandy Tuveson. The group tasted a variety of Cabernet wines. Following the tasting they had dinner at Madfish Grill. Their next tasting will be held at **Margaret Mill's on Monday, December 21 at 4:30 PM**.

If you are interested in joining a wine group, please contact Jack & Linda Vendeland, linvende@aol.com 941-342-278

Film Talk will meet at Burns Court Cinema on the 3rd Wed of each month. Please contact **Dotty Flynn** dafsarasota@comcast.net if you would like to be added to the email list. **WE NEED YOU!**



Exchanges

If you're looking for an opportunity to travel with other Florida clubs, below are the 2016 Exchanges.

2016 FLORIDA EXCHANGES

- 🌸 Feb 25-March 2, Inbound FF Western North Carolina to **FF SRQ**, ED Phill Price
- 🌸 Feb, FF SW FL to Turriabla, Costa Rica
- 🌸 March, Salisbury & North, AUS to FF FL Suncoast & Orlando
- 🌸 March 14-17, Inbound Stopover, Coastal Belgium to **FF SRQ** & FF SW FL, ED Debbie & Gary Kuhns
- 🌸 April 7-27, **FF Sarasota** to Greater Taipei, Taiwan, ED Terri Holsinger and Reeta Dean
- 🌸 Sept Helsingborg, Sweden to FF Orlando
- 🌸 **September 15-18 FFI World Conference Marrakesh, Morocco**
- 🌸 Oct FF Orlando to Reinhausen & Hamburg, Germany
- 🌸 Oct **FF SRQ** outbound domestic to FF WNC (Asheville NC), ED Donna Schaeffer
- 🌸 Nov **FF SRQ** inbound international Cornwall, England, ED Ramona McGee
- 🌸 Nov FF FL Suncoast to Coatepec, Mexico
- 🌸 Dec Bujumbura & All Africa to FF SW FL

April 19-May 3, 2016, Exchange Opportunity with Denver Club

FFI Matthew Nidek asked us to share the following exchange: "Spring Blossoms in the South"

4 nights in Charleston, SC-historic sites, plantation tours, Ft Sumter, USS Yorktown

4 nights in Savannah, GA, historic sites, barrier islands with wildlife preserves, Gullah culture and Art

6 Night exchange after drive back to Greenville, SC for exchange with the Lake Hartwell, Georgia Club

Activities include: Distillery Tour, Art and History Museums, Tour of BMW plant, relaxing boat party on the lake.

Approximate Cost is \$1016 which includes hotel, van/car rental & gas and FF fees to Atlanta and Lake Hartwell host club.

Single supplement is \$1155.

Air, food and admissions are extra. Contact Linda Lustig ED-FF Denver, jimlinda43@outlook.com with questions and more information.

2017 TENTATIVE EXCHANGES

- ✦ Spring TBD by 2016 Board:
 - Options: International Global Arts
 - Inbound domestic Santa Barbara and/or Napa/Sonoma CA
- ✦ Summer outbound international Isle of Wight & Cornwall, UK
- ✦ Fall FFI World Conference Manchester, UK
- ✦ Fall All FL Conference hosted by FF Sarasota
- ✦ Early November inbound international FF Wellington, NZ

Judi Stratton, FFI Florida Field Rep, jaspetite@comcast.net or (941) 497-5684

Exchanges - Inbound

February 25-March 1, 2016 Inbound Exchange from Western North Carolina ED Phillip Price

The date is set. The club, FF of Western North Carolina, is coming February 25 to March 1, 2016. Our guests are from the metropolitan area of Asheville, NC.

Please fill out and return attached **RSVP form for Circus Sarasota Winter Performance Sun, 1 pm, Feb 28, 2016**. We reserved a block of 35 discounted tickets for our ambassadors and our club members. **DEADLINE:** RSVP must be received by Sat, Jan 23, 2016.

We need **day hosts**. Please contact Gretchen Castner if you are able to volunteer for this extremely important role that gives home hosts a short break. Email gcastner@msn.com or call (941) 955-5809. See attached day host guidelines.

RSVP forms for events and activities are coming soon.

Phillip Price, ED, phillip@pvprice.net (813)642-5990

Exchanges - Outbound

April 7-27, 2016, Outbound Exchange to Greater Taipei, Taiwan EDs Terri Holsinger and Reeta Dean

Friendship Force of Greater Taiwan exchange and China tour April 7-27, 2016 is now full with 18 participating in exchange to Tai Pei, Taiwan and China tour and cruise.

Terri Holsinger, terriholsinger@hotmail.com 317-753-2172
Reeta Dean, reetatoc@yahoo.com, 941-360-8768

See the new 2016 FF SRQ Membership form attached to this email and submit with your dues. Thanks