

Friends Connection

Friendship Force of Sarasota

www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org
[Friendship Force Sarasota Facebook](#)

September, 2015

Volume 26, No 8

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Vice-President	Barb Hahn
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Treasurer:	Dona Brannan
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Publicity:	Lorrie Holm
Sunshine:	Margaret Mills
Exchange Coordinator:	Judi Stratton
Past President:	Katy Goodwin

President's Message

Although the calendar says summer is about over, the thermometer doesn't agree. I hope you have each had a good summer, filled with travel, relaxation, company (if that is what you like) and that you are ready to get back into the swing of FFSRQ. We have a group of 17 heading for the Netherlands, most are from FFSRQ. We wish them safe and wonderful travels. My term of office as president is almost 3/4 completed. Time flies when you are having fun.

The slate of officers for 2016 appears in this newsletter. What a capable group of hard workers. It is my pleasure to tell you that another of our club members has been chosen by FFI to assist them. She will be Field Representative for Florida's 6 clubs. Judi Stratton was our president two times, currently ED coordinator, often inbound and outbound ED, adventurous traveler, and well qualified for the position. In preparation for the job, Judi attended a full day training session in Atlanta and a 3-day Field Rep Conference in July. FFI is important to Judi and she will make things happen while she our field rep. Judi's responsibilities will focus on supporting Florida clubs with emails, phone calls and visits, in addition she will assist in group exchanges, provide training and assisting wherever, whenever needed. FFSRQ is so fortunate to have Judi and so many dedicated and capable members.



Don't let the list of honored members end; step up and be a part of this group of leaders.

Mary McClendon, President, marymc5936@verizon.net or (941) 923-3785

Mark Your Calendars

Sept 3, Thurs	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station	7:00 pm
Sept 16, Wed	Film Talk,	Dot Flynn
Sept 21, Mon	Board Meeting	7:00 pm Lorrie Holm
Oct 1, Thurs	Annual Meeting , Waldemere Fire Station	7:00 pm
Oct 10	All Florida FF Conference, Ft Myers	9:30 am – 4:30 pm
Oct 15, Thurs	Wine Group I	see below
Oct 19, Mon	Wine Group II	see below
Oct 25, Sun- Oct 30, Fri	Inbound from Los Angeles	Barbara Peterson, ED
Oct 21, Wed	Film Talk	Dot Flynn
Oct 27, Tues	Board Meeting	7:00 pm TBD
Nov 5, Thurs	Regular Meeting, Waldemere Fire Station	7:00 pm
Nov 16, Mon	Wine Group II	see below
Nov 18, Wed	Film Talk	Dot Flynn
Nov 19, Thurs	Wine Group I	see below
Nov 24, Tuesday	Board Meeting	7:00 pm TBD



Dec 3, Thursday	Holiday Party – Stoneybrook Country Club (no regular meeting)	
Dec 17, Thurs	Wine Group I	see below
Dec 21, Mon	Wine Group II	see below
Feb 25-Mar 2, 2016	Inbound from Western North Carolina	Phillip Price, ED
March 14-17, 2016	Inbound Stopover – Belgian Coast Club	need ED
April 7-27, 2016	Outbound to FF Greater Taipei	Reeta Dean & Terri Holsinger, EDs
Oct 2016	Outbound Western North Carolina	Donna Schaeffer, ED
Nov 2016	Inbound, Cornwall England	

Thurs, September 3rd meeting—Waldemere Fire Station, 7:00 pm. Not to be missed!

LYNNE BUCHANAN – FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHER

We are so very fortunate to have as our program speaker, Lynne Buchanan, fine art photographer.

Lynne is going to share some of her stories and photos from her 10-day trip to Cuba, a cross cultural journey last fall where she visited Santiago, Baracoa and Havana. While there Lynne met musicians, dancers and other cultural groups.

With Cuba opening its doors and the opening of embassies in the US and Havana, we will get a front row view of Lynne's adventure.

Lynne lives in Micanopy and grew up in Sarasota. Lynne will have some of her matted photographs for you to see and purchase. More examples of her fine work can be seen on her website at <http://lynnebuchanan.blogspot.com>

Barb Hahn, Vice President, **note new cell 941-266-9802**

Committee Reports

Nomination Committee-Katy Goodwin, chair. The Election of Officers will take place at the October 1, 2015 meeting. Further nominations can be made from the floor with the consent of the nominees. The newly elected officers will assume their duties on January 1, 2016

Presentation of the Officer Slate for 2016:

President:	Barbara Hahn	Secretary:	Margaret Lewis
V.P.:	Lorrie Holm	Treasurer:	Sandy Tuveson

Publicity -- The Publicity Chair needs a committee! If you like to **collaborate** on PR, marketing and other projects, please email me. I won't repeat the old bromide that many hands make light work. Oh wait, I just did. I'm turning my attention to getting some speaking engagements to talk to community groups about Friendship Force. **Please email me if you are willing to serve as a speaker or if you know places where we can spread the word.** Thank you!
Lorrie.Holm@gmail.com

Social – say yes to Grace Rowland and her very social committee volunteers when they call - Mary Brand, Mariann Carmody, Gretchen Castner, John Langmann, Jan Short and Bobbie Jabbas. We **need just 2 more volunteers** for the refreshment table. Please email Grace Rowland, sarasotatraveler@gmail.com with the month you can volunteer.

Welcome New Members: **Lee Liese Berkowitz** was a social work administrator, speaks German and enjoys cats and volunteering. Lee lives in the Pelican Cove area. She checked off several activities she would be happy to be involved in at FF SRQ-board, programs, exchange activities, home host, transportation. Take her up on her offer! She is friends with Sue Gordon.

Patda DeLaTorre owned her own travel agency and is an author. She speaks Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, German and some French! WOW! She enjoys travel, working with her therapy dog and tennis. She also has volunteered for activities including social activities, programs, exchange activities, and can serve in many roles for inbound exchanges. Katy Goodwin asked her to give a talk on Bhutan and she learned about FF.

Please engage our new members. What assets! Their address, phone and email are in the member directory attached to the newsletter email. Both are volunteers!

NEWS FROM THE WEB

A big thank you to Debbie Kuhns for sending photos she took at the Summer Happening at Phillippi Estate Park and Mansion. You can see her photos on our web site. [Summer Happening Photos](#)
Linda Vendeland, Web Administrator www.friendshipforcesarasotaflorida.org and <https://www.facebook.com>



WINE TASTING GROUPS (FF members only) Wine Tastings will resume in October. Have a fun Labor Day celebration! 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. Please contact **Dotty Flynn** dafsarasota@comcast.net if you would like to be added to the email list. **WE NEED YOU!**



Jim Chastain wanted to bring to our attention an interesting Thursday night film series being presented by Ringling College. About half are foreign films. Talk to Jim for more information chastainj@comcast.net or 941-953-9539

Free movies every Thursday in the Academic Center Auditorium at 7:00pm. The listing below is the World Cinema list. Expand your horizons with the best of world cinema; or, get down and dirty with some of Hollywood's classic film noirs. All on the big screen—the way movies were intended to be seen.

Sept. 10: World Cinema

Wild Tales (Damián Szifron, 2014). An Argentine-Spanish black-comedy anthology film composed of six stand-alone shorts united by themes of violence and revenge. The characters display forms of cathartic vengeance and destruction culminating in what the director calls "the undeniable pleasure of losing control." Best Foreign Film nominee.

Sept. 24: World Cinema

Xala (Ousmane Sembène, 1975). "Xala" is Wolo for "temporary sexual impotence." This Senegalese film depicts a businessman cursed with it on the day of his marriage to his third wife. Empire Magazine ranked Xala among the 100 Best Films of World Cinema.

Oct. 8: World Cinema

Picnic at Hanging Rock (Peter Weir, 1975). In remote Australia during the Victorian Era, three students and a teacher from a girls' school vanish without a trace while on a picnic. New Australian Cinema director Weir uses lush cinematography to create a near-mystical story about the chasm between European settlers and the ancient mysteries of their new country. A horror film that looks nothing like a horror film.

Oct. 22: World Cinema

A Separation (Asghar Farhadi, 2011). Oscar winner as Best Foreign Film, 2012. A middle-class Iranian couple separate after 14 years of marriage. They are faced with a difficult decision---to improve the life of their child by moving to another country or to stay in Iran and look after an aging parent succumbing to Alzheimer's.

Nov. 5: World Cinema

After Life. (Hirokazu Koreeda, 1998). The newly dead spend a week in the Japanese countryside to select a single memory that they can take with them to eternity. Each describes their memory in detail so counselors can film it. The memories are screened at week's end so that they can be re-experienced for eternity. If "heaven" is a single, happy memory from your life, which one would you choose?

Upcoming Exchanges

It is soon time for us to submit to FFI our **requests for international outbound exchange destinations for 2017**. As Exchange Coordinator, I am asked to survey the club membership on this question. If you have a destination you are particularly interested in, **please let me know by Friday 9/11** and I will share that information with the board. Be sure to consider the number of clubs and the number of weeks of hosting available in that country when you make your request, see the club listings on the FFI website ([find a club](#))

Congratulations and a big thank you is due to those members of our club who have agreed to take a leadership role and serve as Exchange Director for upcoming exchanges in 2016. Please **say yes** when one of the inbound EDs invites you to be on the exchange **committee**; it's a great way to get involved and to learn how Friendship Force works! See you at the **All Florida FF Conference** in October. **Judi Stratton, Exchange Coordinator**, jaspetite@comcast.net or (941) 497-5684

Exchanges - Inbound

Sun, Oct 25th-Fri, Oct 30th Inbound Exchange from Los Angeles, ED Barbara Peterson

Our exchange with L.A. is getting closer. Two months from now ! Our home hosting, day hosting and dinner party lists have been made. We are hoping that many more of you will join us on some of our activities, especially the welcome and farewell gatherings. If you have not been to Gabbiano's on Siesta Key it would be a great time to try it. We also hope that several of you would join us on the Sunset Cruise on the LeBarge. We want to show our guest that we are happy they chose Sarasota to visit. Since 10 ambassadors is a smaller number it involves a smaller group of us--so we would love to have the rest of you join us on these specific events. We are looking forward to seeing many of you during the exchange. The event sheet, menu for the farewell and page to sign up are included on pages 6 and 7 of the newsletter. **Thank you. Barbara Peterson, bandwpeterson@verizon.net.**

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

Opportunity Knocks

PLEASE HELP

The date is set. The club, Friendship Force of Western North Carolina, is coming February 25 to March 1, 2016. Our guests are from the metropolitan area of Asheville, North Carolina. The area from which our ambassadors come shares our character as a retirement destination. It also has a lively cultural and educational base. The Asheville area frequently finds itself in lists of best places to live. Although it seems like off in the distant future, we need help in committee positions for this exchange. Ultimately, we will need many volunteers for a successful exchange. Currently I need to fill the committee position of **Coordinator for Home Hosts**. Thanks so much.

Many thanks to the helpful members who have volunteered and provided needed advice thus far.
Phillip Price, ED Western North Carolina Exchange. Phillip@pvprice.net (813)642-5990

Exchanges - Outbound

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

Ni Hao

Now is the time to join the FFSRQ exchange to FF Greater Taipei including a **2-week tour** of mainland China including Beijing, the Great Wall, Yangtze River cruise, Xian (home of the terra cotta army) and Shanghai. Plus **1-week exchange** with FF Greater Taipei experiencing cuisine, memorials to Chang Kai Shek, Dr Sun Yat Sen, Lungshan Temple, parks, markets, gardens, Baoan Temple, city hall, Pingxi Village, national parks, we're hoping a calla lily farm, national palace museum, geopark (depending on your hosts). So many opportunities, so little time.

When--April 7-27, 2016

How--plane, trains, boat and good feet.

How much—approx. \$4100 for 3 weeks which includes most meals, hotels, air fare from Los Angeles to Shanghai, Beijing to Taipei and Taipei to Los Angeles. **Additional** costs will be optional tour trips, cabin upgrades and transportation to and from Los Angeles within US. This figure includes estimated costs of visa, travel insurance and FFI fees.



Deadline: **\$300 by October 1 will hold your seat. Go to:** <http://www.gate1travel.com/ffchina.aspx> to review highlights, itinerary, optional tour descriptions, hotels

Oct 1, 2015 Deposit or full payment due on 14-day China Tour/Cruise on Gate 1 web site

Oct 2, 2015 Exchange will open to other FL clubs

Dec 31, 2015 FFI Exchange fees due in full to treasurer, Stan Holsinger

Jan 15, 2015 Final payment due on 14-day Gate 1 tour; Submit your VISA request form to Genvisa-expediter

Contact Terri or Reeta for more details. We would love to fill this trip with our own FF SRQ club-max 20; we have 16 who have serious interest.

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

Los Angeles Inbound Exchange Oct 25-30, 2015

AGENDA

Sun, Oct 25 Arrival around 8:00 PM; McDonalds parking lot at Cattleman & Bee Ridge Rd.
 Mon, Oct 26 9:30 AM Welcome
 Der Dutchman Amish restaurant, 3713 Bahia Vista St, Sarasota
 We will have our own room and use the buffet. \$11.00 per person
 LaBarge Sunset cruise. 5:30Pm boarding time \$25 per person
 Tues, Oct 27 10:00 Ringling Museum. \$15 per person
 Wed, Oct 28 10:00 Mote Marine and Aquarium \$15:00 per person
 6:00PM Dinner Parties for Ambassadors and Host families
 Thurs, Oct 29... 10:00 Marie Selby Botanical Gardens \$15.00
 6:00PM Farewell Dinner, Cafe Gabbiano, cafegabbiano.com
 5104 Ocean Blvd. Siesta Key \$30 per person
 Fri, Oct 30 Our guest leave on a road trip

RSVP for Los Angeles Exchange Activities

If questions, contact Barbara Peterson, 941-925-3755, bandwpeterson@verizon.net

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 RSVP. **RSVP must be received by Monday, October 19, 2015. It's very important to help our members if you have extra passes to Ringling, Mote or Selby to let us know.**

Mon, 10/26	9:30 Welcome breakfast at Der Dutchman Amish Restaurant	\$11
	# Attending: _____ Total for this activity \$ _____	
Mon, 10/26	5:30 LeBarge Sunset Bay Cruise	\$25
	# Attending: _____ Total for this activity \$ _____	
Tues, 10/27	10:00 Ringling Museum	\$15
	# Attending: _____ Total for this activity \$ _____	
	Will attend but use membership card for free admission # _____	
	Will attend and use membership pass to get others in for free - # of passes _____	
Wed, Oct 28	10:00 Mote Marine and Aquarium	\$15
	# Attending: _____ Total for this activity \$ _____	
	Portion of enclosed check for this activity \$ _____	
	Will attend but use membership for free admission _____	
	Will attend and use membership to get another person in for free _____	
Thurs, 10/29	10:00 Marie Selby Botanical Gardens	\$15
	# Attending: _____ Total for this activity \$ _____	
	Portion of enclosed check for this activity \$ _____	
	Will attend but use membership for free admission _____	
	Will attend and use membership to get another person in for \$5 (you will not have to pay the \$5) _____	
Thurs, 10/29	6:00 Farewell Dinner at Café Gabbiano. RSVP below	

NAME(S): _____

TOTAL of enclosed check for ALL activities selected above \$ _____

SEND THIS RSVP form by Mon, Oct 19 and CHECK Payable to: Friendship Force Club of Sarasota

Mail to: Exchange Treasurer – Ramona McGee
 5316 Dominica Circle, Sarasota FL 34233
 941-378-2094 or rmmcgee0806@comcast.net

LOS ANGELES EXCHANGE
Oct 29, 2015, 6:00 pm
FAREWELL DINNER MENU

Antipasti – a trio of appetizers served family style on each table

Choice of Entrée:

1. Tortellini Alla Paolo – Cheese stuffed handmade pasta sautéed with ham, mushrooms and peas topped with fresh Alfredo sauce
2. Pollo Mamma Lucia – Boneless chicken breast sautéed with wild mushrooms, Marsala wine, a touch of marinara with mozzarella cheese
3. Salmon Sole Mio – Atlantic salmon sautéed with olive oil, garlic, white wine, cherry tomatoes, fresh basil and herbs

All entrées include seasonal vegetables

Dolci – 3 delicious desserts served family style on each table

Cost \$30 per person includes tax, tip, coffee, tea or 1 soft drink

Cash bar available

Send checks, payable to Friendship Force Club of Sarasota, to
Ramona McGee, 5316 Dominica Circle, Sarasota FL 34233

Deadline: RSVP as soon as you're able but absolutely by Mon, Oct 26

Tear off form and send check
Payable to Friendship Force Club of Sarasota, to
Ramona McGee
5316 Dominica Circle, Sarasota FL 34233
Deadline: ASAP but no later than Mon, Oct 26

I plan to attend Thurs, Oct 29 Farewell Dinner at Café Gabbiano

Enclosed is my check for \$30 x ____ = Total _____

My entre choice is #1 Tortellini Alla Paolo **OR** #2 Pollo Mamma Lucia **OR** #3 Salmon Sole Mio
(Circle one or two depending on # of attendees)

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____