



July, August 2014

www.thefriendshipforce.org



Club meetings are held the third Tuesday of March, May, July, September, and November at the Salt Lake County Government Center at 2001 South State Street, SLC. Use the East Entrance at the north end of South Building where free parking is available.

Social 6:30-7:00 p.m.
Program 7:00-7:45 p.m.
Clean up 8:50-9:00 p.m.

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Our next General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15 at 6:30 at the Salt Lake County Government Center, 2001 South State Street, SLC.

We have an exciting event planned for our program, Tuesday, July 15th.

Donna Mirabelli will speak about her trip in 2007 when she walked 500 miles of the Camino de Santiago in Spain.



Everyone is welcome bring your friends!

We will be in a new location in the South Building. This is a bigger and better location. The Room S1010 is located in the South part of the South Building. We will plan to enter through the door we have been using (at the North end of the South Building).

You will probably be required to sign in. If this door is locked, please go the North Building, sign in and proceed to the elevator and go to the 3rd floor, across the sky bridge to the elevator and back down to the first floor. Room S1010 is in the south part of the building.

From the President's Desk **Margret Boes-Ingraham**

Thanks...First I want to thank Nona for everything she did to make the Regional Conference a great success. I have heard kudos from so many people who attended. To Kathy Howarth who was the mistress of ceremonies and kept the day moving along and on time. To all who attended and helped in the many ways at the conference and detailing all the things ahead of time. To all the hosting following the conference. A great time was had by all! Please note the article about The Wayne Smith Award that was received by Denice Wheeler. This is a tremendous honor and we congratulate Denice, who has contributed so much to our organization!



Jennifer Allred and Cosette Joesten co-chaired the Russian Exchange which was a great success. Jennifer had one of the parties at Tracy Aviary and re-introduced this venue to many of us that had not been there for a long time. Dasha (our Russian friend who was one of the language instructors at our May meeting!) was a big help at the Aviary and Snowbird to help with our Russian guests. Our host(s) both night and day went out of their way to make sure the Russians had a great visit. It takes our whole club participation and I appreciate everyone's efforts in committees, dinners and attendance at various events. I am proud of our club for this effort.

In December we will host our first Open World exchange from the Ukraine. This will be 5 delegates who are young professionals. Cherie and John Wallace, Tom and Mauritia Stephens, and Doug and I will be coordinating this visit. If you would be interested in helping in some way please let one of us know. This will really be an interesting and new experience for our club. We look forward to showing these young people Salt Lake City from a business and cultural perspective.

For those of you who do not know, we have been awarded **Tokyo, Japan** as our 2015 outgoing exchange and **Niagara, Canada** as our incoming exchange. More information and dates to follow. If you are interested in helping with either of these, (especially serving as exchange director for either), please send me an email.

Looking forward to seeing you at our next general membership meeting at the SL County Complex (same room we met in last time) on July 15th. Our newest member, Donna Mirabelli will speak about her trip in 2007 when she walked 500 miles of the Camino de Santiago in Spain.

Thanks again,

Margret

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SEE THE WORLD**

thefriendshipforce.org

From the Membership Desk of Kris Hill

I am happy to report that we have 70 members! This was my goal for the year, and we have reached it mid-year. We have had about a 10% increase since the beginning of the year. Bruce and Betty Wycoff, Marvin and Jeanne Goldstein, and Cherie and John Wallace are new members and all of them home hosted for our recent Russian exchange. And Donna Mirabelli, our newest member is a presenter at our July meeting. The quality of our club is enhanced with these excellent people.



Sounding like a broken record, please continue what you are doing by bringing guests and making referrals. It is working! At the July and September general meetings, we will have a recruitment handout for you which contain commonly asked questions about FF of Utah. Please take one if you think it would be helpful.

As excited as I am about our future with this terrific membership growth, I was reminded recently about how important our past is as well. I went through some club paperwork recently and did a little research about our membership composition. I thought it was fantastic to learn that we have 20 people who have been members of our club for 20+ years! And some of those have been members for 35 years, 27 years, and 24 years!

Just about all of them have been board members, officers and/or exchange directors . sometimes several times! We would simply not have a club without them. We will put a list of our long time members in the next newsletter. We are also planning a tribute to them in the near future.

New Member

Donna Mirabelli, Salt Lake City. Donna is a retired teacher. She loves travel, hiking, walking, running, fitness activities and art collecting. She speaks Italian. Donna was referred by Susan Hilton. Please welcome her when you see her at the July meeting, where she is the speaker!

LOST AND FOUND – READING GLASSES

One of the advantages (?) of being retired is time to clean out closets, etc. In doing this recently, I located a pair of reading glasses left at my home. The glass style is called Golden Capri and the frame is made by Gun Metal. They look like women's glasses. The lenses are round and the frames are metal. They are really nice glasses. I thought they belonged to my mom, but they do not.

If you remember anyone who has mentioned lost glasses . either one of own members or visitors, please let me know. I will be happy to mail them anywhere. If this sounds familiar and you would like me to check with one of your past guests, just send me their email addresses.

I am so sorry to have just discovered this! If I don't hear from anyone in the next few months, I will donate them to Kathleen Mason's eyeglass clinic group.

Kris Hill kristinhill@sisna.com 801-272-3486 or 801-598-4417

**Outgoing Domestic Exchange
Madison, Wisconsin****July 16 to July 22**

We're excited. Our bags are packed. We're just waiting for July 16 when we leave for Madison, WI. This sounds like an exciting week of discovery. The Madison ED has pointed out a number of activities that sound unusual and educational from Frank Lloyd Wright buildings to the largest farmers market in the US. In addition there are many other interesting sights to keep us engaged. There are eleven of us able to take advantage of this exchange: Orion and Marge Sherwood, Don, Nona, and Stephie Bressler, Kathy Wilde, Denice Wheeler, Lee Flynn. Shirley Scholz, Lottie Wann and Jan Banta.

Exchange Director is Jan Banta. rojanban@aol.com 801-295-6788

**Outgoing International Exchange
Mispah, (near Cape Town), South Africa****October 12 to October 20**

Eleven members of our club, four from Arizona, four from the Seattle area and one from the Washington DC area will leave for an exchange to Mispah, South Africa around the 11th of October for the exchange October 13th - 20th. The exchange will be followed by a four day safari to the Ngala Private Game Reserve, which connects to Kruger National Park. After the safari several members will fly on to Victoria Falls for three days, some members will go early and see other parts of Africa and others will stay later, but a good time is anticipated by everyone.

I have contacted two clubs who have been hosted in this part of Africa and both said "It was a wonderful exchange after we arrived, but communication in making the arrangements were frustrating" and that is what I am finding. Nona Bressler, Exchange Director

Exchange Directors are Nona Bressler and Lotti Wann.

**Incoming International Exchange
Moscow Russia****June 2 to June 8****Report by Jennifer Allred**

We now have fourteen new friends in Moscow thanks to a group of wonderful home hosts, day hosts, and dinner hosts.

Nona and I met them at the airport on their way in from Europe for a five- hour layover on their way to Grand Junction. We were appreciated since they had some misdirected luggage and some could not even write their names and addresses in our alphabet for the airlines to reroute it.

We took TRAX into Temple Square and got a Russian missionary to take some around while others walked around City Creek Mall and bought the necessary SIM cards to make their phones and I Pads work in the USA. They were so grateful for that afternoon.

When they came back to SLC they were greeted with their hosts and taken home. Thanks to all who made it to the airport to welcome them, including Jay Vestal, a prospective member and Dana Hughes our new secretary. (*Also JoDeane Cruz and Kris Hill went to the airport to meet the Russian Ambassadors.*)

Our picnic in the Aviary was fantastic and it was a beautiful setting with birds and lovely grounds to observe. The bird trainer came to visit our picnic and showed off a beautiful bird

from the Amazon who happily hopped on to the arms of some of our visitors. Our youngest ambassador, Maxim performed two songs on his flute and Oxana translated as we discussed our agenda and made the introductions.

Snowbird was the highlight of our exchange! The cameras were clicking like mad at the gorgeous view from our private dining room in the Aerie restaurant at the Cliff Lodge. The service was fantastic and the food was delicious. That afternoon, since the Tram was still under-going repairs, was spent at the luxurious spa and pool on top of Cliff Lodge, and for some it was after a day of hiking in the mountains. (Rose Novak and Marina hiked all the way to Dog Lake and back.)

We are so lucky to have Margret as President. She is an owner at Iron Blossum Lodge at Snowbird as well as Doug (she met Doug on the chair lift at Solitude!) It was her idea and her persistence that got us the discounts and spa visit as part of our package.

The museum in Ogden was spectacular, but no one actually arrived by TRAX. It was a beautiful day for exploring northern Utah by car, and the ambassadors got some great photos of trains, our guides and docents of the cowboy museum. There was a display of Hawaiian quilts that was a bonus, and very interesting.

My first exchange was surely a positive experience; the volunteerism in our club was super, and the delightful ambassadors could not have been nicer. I certainly appreciate the home hosts and day hosts who made sure that the free days were filled with diverse opportunities for our Russian friends. Some went to Antelope Island, some to Moab, and some to the Natural History Museum and Thanksgiving point. All the guests were very happy.

I also want to thank my very helpful committee, Cosette, Betsy, Kris, and Margret for all their hours of planning and contributing. Lee Flynn created a lovely program for us, and if you want one, I still have a few. Also, a big thanks to all who hosted dinner parties: Tom and Mauricia Stephens, Nona and Don Bressler, Cherie and John Wallace (whose guests had no English to speak with!), Betsy Heath and Susan Hilton, Margret and Doug (who had to miss the big Snowbird event when Doug went into the hospital), George and Launa Herrmann (who cooked a dutch-oven dinner in their back yard), Bruce and Betty Wycoff, and John and Kathy Howarth (who drove their ambassadors to Arches, since they had missed it in Grand Junction, and had a dinner party the night they got back!) I also appreciated the Jeanne and Marvin Goldstein who took on an additional partner of their guest at the last moment.

I look forward to going on an exchange myself, and I can see why this organization is so important and rewarding.

Enrichment Voyages - Iron & Ice, May 18 – June 15, 2014. By Cosette Joesten

The adventure of a life time: This cruise was a 30 day experience seeing many amazing places, renewing friendships, making new friends and learning new information. There were 158 FFI members on the first leg and then 120 on the second leg. There were many members from Australia, Canada, and US. We also had some members from Chiapas, Mexico and one member from Moscow.

The ship is normally used for teaching - Semester at Sea. We were on what is called an Enrichment Voyage. This means that on the days we were at sea there were lectures on various subjects, art classes, dance classes and always a preport presentation on our next stop.

Favorite stops were Gdansk, Poland; Tallin, Estonia; and Iceland. I was joined on this adventure with Barbara Herrmann and new member, Sydney Hollinger.



From: the Northern Colorado Friendship Force June Newsletter

Mountain States Regional Conference
@Crossroads of the West+Hosted by Utah Friendship Force

Sixteen of us trekked to Salt Lake City for a well planned conference. Also attending were 18 from the Utah club, 11 from Western Colorado, six from Cheyenne, and three from the Pikes Peak club. We were treated with wonderful accommodations (a large suite) at Little America. Don't hesitate to stay there if you're passing through, or better yet, stay for a few days. It's very near the heart of the city with free rail transportation throughout the downtown.

Meals there were outstanding, too, as was our bus tour of the city. Being present for the broadcast of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir was a highlight on Sunday morning; Friendship Force guests were announced right along with a Danish royal couple that was in attendance. Some of us happily remained in the city for home stays after the conference.



The keynote address was given by FFI President Joy DiBenedetto, and what follows here is a peek at the information many of us will be sharing with you at the June meeting. Joy updated us with the latest FFI numbers; 362 clubs/communities in approximately 70 countries and now 7 continents. FFI is responsible for about 37,500 new friendships per year, across cultural, religious, and political boundaries, and she said 20 exchanges were going on as she was speaking. She informed us that 110 of our 362 clubs now have Web sites.

Our new president also addressed issues such as too many cancelled inbound exchanges, applying for the Nobel Peace Prize again, Friendship Force pen pals, promoting through OLLI and AARP, seeking grants, and NEXTGEN (not just recruiting younger members but using nextgeneration ideas).

Our other presenters spoke about publicity, photography, packing and travel tips, and mentoring new members and keeping them engaged. I'll attempt to whet your appetite for the June meeting with one key bit of information from each. Denice Wheeler (Utah club); **Promotion and Publicity**: Steal ideas from other clubs. Keith Hill (Utah club), current president of Wasatch Camera Club, **Unleash the Great Photographer within You**: Most important when taking photos of people and critters is to have the subjects eyes in focus. Becky Hale, with ILC Traveloutfitters, **Packing and Travel Tips**: Bedbug Patrol and The Go Girl (potty kit). Betty Jean DeMersseman (our club), **Recruitment** and Cindy Paulson (our club), **Mentoring New Members**: Sue Palmer, **Keeping New Members Engaged**: My notes on these are combined, so I'll just include of some of what I recorded: Action + Attention = Active Members. Interview new members and include information in newsletter if that's okay with them. Potential new members belong to OLLI, (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). At the Farewell Banquet, we enjoyed the presentation of a Wayne Smith Medal to longtime Utah club member Denice Wheeler. We appreciate all those who planned, presented, and participated in the conference, but special thanks go to the Utah club's Chairperson Nona Bressler, Moderator Kathy Howarth, and President Dana Hughes.* **THANK YOU!** Sue Cummins

*The club president of the Utah Friendship Force club is Margaret Boes-Ingraham



The Utah Friendship Force Club



Community

Send us information about your community news item or happening in Evanston, Uinta County, Wyoming and Rich County, Utah. Send your community information to editor@uintaoc.org

Wheeler honored by Friendship Force International

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — The Friendship Force International Board and the members of the Utah Friendship Force Club presented the Wayne Smith Award to Evanston resident Denice Wheeler at a tri-state convention in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The award recognizes members for outstanding service and leadership in support of the mission of the organization, which is respecting cultural diversity, overcoming the barriers that separate people throughout the world and staying in the homes of club members all over the world in order to advance friendship.

Wheeler has belonged to the Fort Collins, Colorado,

club, the Cheyenne club and has been a member of the Utah club for over 22 years. She has traveled to 54 countries and has been Exchange Director to 14 countries and many places in the United States. She is a past president of the Utah club as well as having served on the board of directors.

She chaired their 25th anniversary celebration with Susie Smith, the International President, attending. She also chaired the Tri-State Conven-



tion with guests from Colorado, Wyoming and Utah. She has been the hostess for more than 50 guests in her home.

The medal and award certificate were presented by Kathy Howarth of the Utah Club

and congratulations were extended from the present International President, Joy DiBenedetto. A \$500 check was sent the international legacy fund in Ms. Wheeler's name and it was acknowledged that she had been a speaker

at international, national and regional conventions of Friendship Force in Sao Paulo, Brazil; Los Angeles, Mexico and New Zealand/Australia, as well as many states in the U.S.

The Utah club is welcoming new members at this time who are interested in global peace and interacting in the homes of club members around the world. They also have an opportunity of hosting foreign guests in their homes. At this time, Utah will be entertaining guests from Russia and will be going to Africa and Japan.

For more information about the club, call Denice Wheeler at 679-1364 or check the Friendship Force website at www.thefriendshipforce.org.

News about our Members

Doug Ingraham is still in St. Mark's Hospital. I talked to Margret day before yesterday and she said he was feeling better and walking more but still having a problem eating food.

Pamela Paine has been in rehabilitation for quite some time after surgery for a broken arm in several places. Her son has been here with her and her daughter-in-law was planning to come to be with her after he left so she still has a ways to go in her recovery.

Ruth Bryant was a former and long-time member of our Friendship Force club, along with her husband Bob. Ruth had lived at the Wellington Retirement Center for a number of years and passed away the day after Mother's Day. Her ashes will be buried beside her husband at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington DC. A Celebration of Life was held at the Cottonwood Market Street Grill for close friends by her niece and her husband who live in California. A number of our members who had known Ruth attended - some brought pictures, others stood to tell interesting and funny stories about their experiences with Ruth and there was a lot of good food. Ruth and Bob never had any children but they lived all over the world and had a most interesting life. Ruth was a quiet and sweet lady who enjoyed Friendship Force and her friends.