



FFCNC Fast Facts

June 2008

Peru Ambassadors Prep

In less than a month our FFCNC outbound to Lima, Peru will be underway! The eleven local ambassadors gathered for a “cultural workshop” at the Center for Creative Leadership on May 17th...where a panel of Peruvians living in Guilford County described aspects of life in Lima and demonstrated several indigenous dances. A brief Spanish lesson introduced the day, which ended with a presentation about politics and historical context.

The highlight of the day was a visit from Kathy Hinshaw, a Peru native with the Center for New North Carolinians at UNCG who recruited the panel. With Kathy were her parents who live in Cusco—and who graciously invited the ambassadors to visit them while there! Some of Kathy’s extended family also came along: at one point there were probably more Peruvians than ambassadors in the room! Many stayed for lunch, a great opportunity for all.

If you can, **do plan to go to the airport on Tuesday, July 8th to see the group off!** Please call Lunde Amos (336-288-2654) for the precise time of their flight.

Post Peru Party

Ruth and Jim Jackson have generously offered to host the returning Peru ambassadors at a party during the **last week of August**. Their German hosts from our 2007 exchange to Braunschweig/Peine will be visiting...and the Jacksons hope that last year’s German ambassadors will be on hand to greet Renate and Manfred Bosse as well. In fact, they are inviting all FFCNC members to join in the fun! Check the July newsletter for date/time and details.

Host Families Needed For Ben Franklin Transatlantic Fellows

FFCNC members have an opportunity in July to host Ben Franklin Transatlantic Fellows. This program, sponsored by the US State Department, is in its third year on the WFU campus. It provides two summer institutes: The Founders, students 15-17 years old, will be hosted from July 13 to July 20 and the Diplomats, students 17-19 years old, will be hosted from July 20 to July 27. The program offers these participants the opportunity to foster relationships among youth from Eurasia, Europe and America in order to advance links and awareness of shared values and to encounter principles of freedom and cooperation. More information can be found about this program at: <http://www.bfff.org/>.

Hosting requires Sunday pick-up at WFU, daily (M-F) transportation to & from classes on the WFU campus (9 AM and 5 PM,) all meals except weekday lunches, and a nice cultural experience with your family during their home-stay. On Sunday evening at the end of each home-stay week there is an appreciation/farewell dinner at WFU for the students and their host families. There is also an optional orientation and an optional Welcome Picnic.

Last summer two of our FFCNC families, the Browns and the Scherls, had wonderful experiences hosting Ben Franklin Fellows. “The FFCNC membership should be advised that participation in the Ben Franklin program is addictive. Having the brightest, most energetic students from Europe and

Eurasia in your home for a week can be the highlight of your year. I hope that those members of our club who have the time to spare will try hosting in 2008. The rewards are far greater than the effort." - *Marvin and Linda Scherl*

Interested host families may host for either week or both weeks depending on their interests and availability. Please contact Scott Freese (FFCNC member) for more information and an application: 972-6237 (cell); freeses@wfu.edu or scott@icmtriad.org.

Islamic Speaker & Covered Dish Dinner

Save **Thursday, September 4th** for an **FFCNC potluck dinner** at Knollwood Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. Following the 6:30 p.m. meal, well-known UNCG professor **Jerry Pubantz** will speak about Islam—with special reference to our upcoming inbound exchange from Ankara, Turkey. Good time to bring a friend!

Cankaya (Turkey) Ambassadors Arriving October 8th

Co-EDs Ruth Jackson and Jim North have recruited host families for the group of thirteen who will be here with us until October 15th...but they would like to hear from more members and friends who could day host or help with other tasks during the exchange. Call Ruth (674-2745) or Jim (643-0985) if you would like to be involved. The ambassadors, from a suburb of Ankara, are a relatively young group—including a mother and father with their two teenage sons—and have interests such as music, sports, dancing, and yoga.

There will be a **workshop** for FFCNC folks to prepare for the exchange on **Saturday, September 20th at 2:00 p.m.** The **farewell dinner** for our Turkish guests will be **Tuesday, October 14th**—and all FFCNC members are invited! Venue and time TBA.

Upcoming Board Meeting

The FFCNC Board will meet next on Thursday, September 18th at 11:45 a.m. at the Main Street UMC in Kernersville. An agenda will be sent to board members in advance by President Ralph Cauthen. Minutes of board meetings are posted on the website (www.ffcnc.org).

2008 Annual Membership Meeting: Thursday, October 30th

FFCNC's annual meeting will be held at the Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville again this year. Mark your calendar!

A Long-Range Plan for Friendship Force International

Our national headquarters has, after many months of study, adopted a 4-pronged approach to moving forward. Here is the expressed goal and the objectives associated with it, taken from a summary sent to club presidents earlier this year:

Goal: to enable FFI to grow a dynamic and relevant organization while carrying out its mission to promote international understanding by establishing friendships across the barriers that separate people.

Objective 1: FFI will gain new relevance by focusing on current global challenges.

Objective 2: FFI will increase its recognition (local, regional and global) by presenting itself as a community-based organization.

Objective 3: FFI will create a sustainable club model that will result in greatly expanded club membership.

Objective 4: FFI will maximize its organizational effectiveness.

If you would like to request a copy of the entire plan, please e-mail plan@thefriendshipforce.org.

D-Day Memorial Wows FFCNC Group

May 20th saw two carloads head early for Virginia. The rain held off for a pleasant pontoon boat ride on Smith Mountain Lake...and a visit to Booker T. Washington's birthplace farm. Lunch and dinner were rich with camaraderie. But the D-Day Memorial had a huge impact on everyone. It has been created with such care, every detail is meaningful and portrays the WWII invasion in poignant ways. Talk to Carol and Fred Andresen, Barbara and Jim North, Nancy and Peter Peiffer, Sue Schoch and Miles Robinson to get the full story!

48 Dine at Recent LEO!

What a wonderful turnout June 5th for Donna Lambeth's tale of adventures on her recent FFI exchange to Viet Nam! Our third "Let's Eat Out", arranged by Patti Gilmour at Taste of Thai in Greensboro, proved again the popularity of this type of meeting. We look forward to the next LEO, which will be set either in High Point or Winston-Salem. Stay tuned!

Meet Ann and Groome Fulton

At a Guilford College meeting more than 20 years ago, FFI employee Esther Hall recruited Ann Fulton (and Lou Washburn) to organize the Friendship Force in Guilford County...and they led the first outbound exchange of 87 people to Guildford, England in 1984! Ann went on to be ED for exchanges to Holland, Finland, Russia and Japan over the next ten years. Groome became the "financial person" of the club and supported Ann's heavy involvement in Friendship Force.

In Ann's opinion, a critical task for the ED is establishing an open and functional relationship with the host club's ED. It is usually easier working with an experienced ED—and one with sufficient organizational ability. Ann recalls her opposite number for the Yamaguchi exchange to Japan in 1994. He came to visit her in High Point while on an earlier exchange in the US...and he put together a great team in Japan. It was his first time as ED, but his planning and attention to detail made the Yamaguchi exchange a pleasure for Ann and a great success.

Ann happily admits that her extensive volunteer work—for FFI and many non-profits in High Point—has given way to "mostly baby sitting" for her five local grandchildren (9,8,7,4,1). Ann and Groome involved both their sons in FFI exchanges. Brian even led an exchange to Spain. His widow and their son live near by...as does son Gray and his family of four girls.

Groome is "officially" retired but retains an office as consultant for his firm, Fulton Associates. He has been honored by Guilford College for his service over the years and is on the boards of Open Door Ministry and Presbyterian Homes.

The Fultons cherish international friendships gleaned through their Friendship Force activities...especially the "lifelong friends" who hosted them in Holland in 1986. The two couples still get together every year and have raised their sons (and now grandchildren) together. This is what FFCNC is all about!