



# friendship force

CENTRAL  
NORTH CAROLINA

## Fast Facts ~ June 2010

### **Aussie Inbound a Success!**

While small in number (8) the ambassadors from FF of Brisbane were clearly enthusiastic about the variety of activities and pace of our exchange. The Triad impressed them—which was significant as we were hosts for their final week away from home. (Their first week was in Grand Junction, Colorado...and then they had two 2-day homestays—in both Denver and Atlanta—before coming to FFCNC.)

How did we do it? ED Val Stokes arranged a tour of the new International Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro (where she is manager of the gift shop) but was unable to join in the other daytime activities. Carol Bryan, Carol Andresen and Paul Meis each “honchoed” a day during the exchange; the two weekend days plus the last day were left open for time with host families. This proved a good formula and means of dividing the planning. As Paul observed, we made progress developing modules for inbound use which will “keep us from re-inventing the wheel each year.”



No surprise: the “small group dinners” were everyone’s favorite! Special thanks go to the Lambeths (who hosted the Sherrills and Meises and their guests), the Kiszelys (who hosted the Bryans and Andresens and their guests), and the Cauthens (who hosted the Norths and their guests and the Stokes.)

In lieu of a chapter gift, the Brisbane contingent gave us \$50 toward a charitable gift of our choice. FFCNC matched that amount, and a check for \$100 was given to the Red Cross earmarked for Haitian relief. This is a nice new trend in FFI exchanges and one we may want to continue.

To sum, Brisbane ambassador, Ian McVicar writes: “It is hard to pick any one item - we enjoyed them all and, in particular, our overall visit to North Carolina and the Piedmont Triad. Seeing your city and its parks and art gallery and the way you live will be with us forever.” Smile and sigh, hosts!

### **WFDD Fund Drive – FFCNC On the Air!**

Five members of FFCNC participated in the spring fund raising campaign for WFDD. On April 21<sup>st</sup>, Carol and Fred Andresen, Ralph Cauthen, Doris Kiszely and Denver Lennon drove to the studio on Wake Forest University’s campus in Winston-Salem and answered callers pledging by phone. We manned the phone banks for two morning hours and were thanked on-air—not bad publicity for FFCNC! It was a novel and fun escapade.

Besides earning the gratitude of station employees, some of us enjoyed the gourmet breakfast provided by local restaurants. And Ralph recruited station manager, Denise Franklin, to be moderator for our annual meeting in October! Stay tuned!!

We’ve been invited back for the fall pledge drive – watch for the dates.

### **June Let’s Eat Out (LEO)**

Be certain to make your reservation for our June LEO. We will have an optional wine tasting of New Zealand wines accompanied by a talk about the different wine producing regions of the country. Lunch will be ordered from the menu. The cost of the wine tasting (if chosen) will be \$6 per person and it will be added to the lunch bill. Our venue is NOMA Urban Bar & Grill; 12:30 PM on Saturday June 26<sup>th</sup>. NOMA is located at 321 W. Fourth St. (corner of Marshall & Fourth) in Winston-Salem (703-5112.) RSVP to Judy Greene (“yes” only) at 768-1732 or [green111184@bellsouth.net](mailto:green111184@bellsouth.net) by June 18<sup>th</sup> as there is a maximum seating capacity.

### **New Zealand Outbound Exchange Fully Booked**

We have a “full house” of twenty-one participants registered for this popular exchange. Fourteen of our ambassadors are from our area (ten are FFCNC members) and the remainder of the participants are from New York, Pennsylvania, Arizona, and Missouri. Thanks to referrals from the Northern Colorado FF club, who recently completed a similar exchange, it was not necessary to promote our outbound throughout FFI. In fact, we have a waiting list and are hoping that the North Island FF club will be able to increase their hosting capacity to twenty-four participants which would then match the capacity of the South Island FF club.

Due to lack of availability of airline seats on our original travel dates, we have adjusted our travel dates to October 26<sup>th</sup> to November 16<sup>th</sup>. This resulted in reducing the homestay in Dunedin from six days to five.

Our cultural workshop, led by Margaret Griffin, will be held on Saturday, September 11<sup>th</sup> at Presbyterian Church of the Covenant in Greensboro.

## Exchange Directors Needed



Each year FFCNC typically participates in both an in-bound and out-bound exchange. These usually involve international travel to or from the Triad, but sometimes they are domestic (within the US.) In addition to these traditional Friendship Force exchanges, sometimes we are involved in special exchanges such as the recent visit of our Indonesian students or the Open World Exchange from Russia in 2007. Without a doubt, these exchanges are the highlights of our year's activities and, without a doubt, they would never happen without the leadership of an ED (exchange director.)

Volunteering to serve as an ED is a significant commitment, but those who have done it in the past agree that it is worth the effort. Questions you might have include:

- **What does serving as an ED involve?** In a nutshell - planning the exchange, recruiting ambassadors/hosts, and leading the exchange. If it is an out-bound exchange, this involves working with the exchange director(s) in the destination country/city which is hosting our club. Luckily in this age of technology, this is a much easier task than it used to be! An out-bound exchange might also include a week or so of travel in which case the exchange director will work with a travel agent to arrange lodging, transportation, etc. If it is an in-bound exchange, this involves planning welcome and farewell events, and some days of activities during the course of the visit. If it is an international exchange (out-bound or in-bound) a cultural workshop is often planned so the participants are better prepared to enjoy their homestay experience. Lastly, serving as an ED involves a bit of money managing as there is always a budget and some expenses and revenues to monitor.
- **What qualifications does an ED need in order to serve in this capacity?** This varies. Our experienced ED's advise that anyone considering serving as an ED for an international out-bound exchange will be well served to have participated on at least one such exchange. However, this is not a hard and fast rule; a well – experienced traveler, but new FF member may be well suited for the job. A member who is intrigued by the idea of being an ED could “wet his feet” by either serving as a co-ED or as an ED for a smaller in-bound exchange.
- **How does one train for this position?** There are several options for a member to prepare himself for this role. As already mentioned, participation on an exchange is a good starting point; however, it is not the only way to gain knowledge. FFI maintains an ED manual on their website which covers many important details and policies an ED will want to know. Also, valuable resources within our club are the many well experienced members who have already served as ED's. They are always willing to offer advice and guidance.
- **How much time does it take to be an ED?** As you would imagine an international out-bound exchange entails more work to plan. An in-bound exchange will involve planning activities that most of us are familiar with. A longer exchange is more work to plan than a short one. But serving as an ED should not be a one-man job. An important function of the ED is to recruit a committee to help with the planning and, needless to say, a good committee makes the

ED's job a lot easier. It is difficult to say how much time is required to be an ED, but one piece of advice offered by all former ED's is, "*Start early!*"

- ***What is the benefit to serving as an ED?*** Those who have done it mention many things, but most important among them is the satisfaction of knowing they played a significant role in creating a positive cross-cultural experience for our FFCNC members, our guests/hosts, and members of the wider community.

So please keep in mind our constant need for exchange directors as you read updates about our future exchanges. 2011 will bring us an out-bound exchange to Ottawa, Canada in September and an in-bound exchange from Lima, Peru in October. Fall of 2011 will be a busy time for us.

However, we have an immediate need for an exchange director now. In October of 2010 we will be hosting attendees of FFI's international conference in Washington, D.C who chose to remain in the mid-Atlantic region for a homestay. This will be a short visit of approximately three days here in the Triad so it will be a good opportunity for one of our members to try their hand at serving as an exchange director. If you would like to consider doing this or want more information about it, please contact FFCNC President, Marcia Meis (724-9540 or [pmeis@triad.rr.com](mailto:pmeis@triad.rr.com)) as soon as possible.

### **Ben Franklin Summer Host Families Needed**

FFCNC member, Scott Freese, is currently accepting applications for host families for the Benjamin Franklin Transatlantic Fellows Initiative (funded by the US State Department.) Fifty teenagers, ages 15 – 18, will be arriving in Winston-Salem from 38 European countries and 7 different US states. Each one has been selected by the State Department to represent their country in this program.

The homestay portion of their longer program will run from Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon to Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup> in the morning. Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 5 PM the students will be attending classes on the campus of Wake Forest and you will need to provide transportation to and from campus for them. The remainder of the time is yours to enjoy with your guest(s) in activities of your own choosing. If you are available during this timeframe and (especially) if you live in the Winston-Salem area, you will find getting to know these youth on a more personal level a once in a lifetime experience.

The application deadline is June 15<sup>th</sup>. Contact Scott Freese for an application and more detailed information about the program, its schedule, and a list of participants. The best way to contact Scott is by phone (972-6237), though he is also available by email ([freeses@wfu.edu](mailto:freeses@wfu.edu).)

### **PTCIV Cultural Heritage Preservation**

The Office of International Visitors in the US State Department is sponsoring a leadership program on cultural heritage preservation. This group will be hosted by the Piedmont Triad Council for International Visitors while they visit the Triad from July 4 – 7 to meet with curators and executives of several of our local museums and parks. If you are interested in meeting some of these participants and willing to host a small dinner in your home on **Monday, July 5**, contact Ralph Cauthen at 299-2089 or [rbcauthen@aol.com](mailto:rbcauthen@aol.com). Participants will need to be picked up at the Greensboro downtown Marriott lobby at 6:30 PM and returned there at 9 PM. Winston-Salem hosts will have the option of picking up their guests at Old Salem around 4:30 PM (still returning them to the GSO Marriott at 9 PM.)

These participants, who hail from Afghanistan to Tanzania and many other countries in between, are curators, government officials, and administrators of museums, parks, monuments, and antiquities of their homelands. This is sure to produce an interesting evening of conversation as all participants are fluent in English.

### **Mark Your Calendar**

The date is confirmed for our club picnic at the home of Marilyn Baird on Lake Norman. August the 14<sup>th</sup> is the day. More details will follow.

### **Arnold Sporleder to “Retire” as Treasurer**

After many years of faithful service to FF Winston-Salem and FFCNC, Arnold has indicated his desire to step down as the chapter’s treasurer due to family health issues. He will remain in office until a smooth transition can be effected. The annual meeting for 2010 in October is a target date.

The position of Treasurer is an important board role. It requires some knowledge of keeping accounts but is very time flexible. A newer member of FFCNC might bring perspective to this position and would become knowledgeable about FFI and our chapter in short order.

Please speak to Arnold or Marcia Meis if you are interested.

### **2010 Calendar Highlights**

June 26	Let’s Eat Out (LEO); 12:30; NOMA Urban Bar & Grill; Winston-Salem
July 17-26	Ben Franklin Fellows Homestay – call Scot Freese at 972-6237
Aug. 14	Club picnic at home of Marilyn Baird on Lake Norman.
September	Let’s Eat Out (LEO); Wake Forest Stadium, date to be determined.
October 16-18	FFI International Conference in Washington, DC
October 18 – 22	Post International Conference home hosting.
October 21	FFCNC Annual Meeting - Main Street UMC, Kernersville Activities Chair: Ralph Cauthen, 336-299-2089
Oct. 26 – Nov. 16	Outbound Exchange to Auckland & Dunedin, New Zealand EDs: Barbara & Jim North, 336-643-0985

### **2011 Calendar Highlights**

Sept.	Outbound Exchange to Ottawa, Canada
Oct.	Inbound Exchange from Lima, Peru