

Minutes of Annual Meeting of Friendship Force of Central North Carolina (FFCNC)

www.ffcnc.org

October 21, 2010

The annual meeting of FFCNC was held at 6 p.m. on October 21, 2010 at the Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville, NC with a potluck dinner. Jane Cauthen gave thanks for the meal.

Ralph Cauthen welcomed everyone and turned the meeting over to Marcia Meis, President. The following slate of officers was proposed and unanimously voted upon:

President: Marcia Meis

Vice-President: Ray Kiszely

Secretary: Barbara North

Treasurer: Judy Greene

President Elect: Peter Peiffer

The following appointed chair positions were announced for 2011:

Communications Chair: Martha Brown

Incoming Exchange Director to Peru: Paul Meis

Outgoing Exchange Director to Ottawa: Ralph Cauthen

Membership Records Chair: Marvin Scherl

Marcia presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Arnold Sporleder for his many years of service to FFCNC as treasurer. Roses were given in appreciation to the current 2010 Board members and to the following exchange directors and special committee chairs: Martha Brown and Peter Peiffer as EDs for the Indonesian inbound exchange, Valerie Stokes and Paul Meis as EDs for the Australian inbound exchange, Carol Andresen for the newsletter, Fred and Carol Andresen as Chair of the President's Roundtable Regional Meeting, Fred Andresen as ED for the Post World Conference Hosting, Patti Gilmore for the Nominations Committee, and Jim and Barbara North as EDs for the New Zealand outbound exchange.

The Azerbaijani guests who were participating in the Post World Conference Host program were presented paper doves, a General Nathaniel Greene key chain, and certificates from FFCNC. The spokesperson for the Azerbaijani group expressed their appreciation of the hosting opportunity, presented a gift to our club, and extended an invitation to return the hosting opportunity in Azerbaijan.

Jim and Barbara North briefly reported on the upcoming outbound exchange to New Zealand. Twenty-one ambassadors including 13 from our club will leave on October 26th for two homestays and return on November 16th.

The two inbound exchanges for 2011 were announced. The international inbound exchange for the club for 2011 will be from Peru in November and a domestic exchange from Tucson, AZ will be in the spring of 2011. The outbound exchange for 2011 will be to Ottawa, Canada, in October. Those interested in the outbound exchange were encouraged to sign-up or get in touch with Ralph Cauthen, the ED.

The theme for the annual meeting was "Promoting International Understanding through the Arts". David Ford of WFDD's "Triad Arts Up Close" radio program interviewed Todd Drake about his current Muslim self-portrait photographic exhibit. Todd is currently in residence at the UNC Chapel Hill's Center for Global Initiatives. Pieces from his acclaimed project, "Esse Quam Videri" – To Be Rather than to Seem", were on display and discussed. In response to the stereotyping of Muslims and in recognition that it is human nature to fear what we do not know, Todd worked with Muslims in North Carolina to create self-portraits that share real reflections of self. Each picture on display represented an individual story. A documentary of the project can be found on the internet at www.todddrake.info. Additional information on the photographic exhibit can be found at www.muslimselfportrait.info.

Other visitors at the meeting were introduced. The meeting adjourned with the group singing, "Let there be Peace".

Submitted,

Barbara North

Secretary