



friendship force

CENTRAL
NORTH CAROLINA

Focus on Friendship ~ March 2011

An Invitation – To Print and Share with Friends!

Attached please find your invitation to our World Fellowship Day Celebration on Saturday, March 26th. Do plan to come and bring an international friend or two! It's a potluck lunch at GTCC – be sure to RSVP to Ophelia Jones by the 23rd.

SouthEast Regional Conference Registration Extended

If you thought you missed the deadline – good news! It has been extended to the end of the week – so don't delay if you want to participate in this biennial event. FFCNC has already registered Marcia and Paul Meis, Nancy and Peter Peiffer, Barbara and Jim North, Judy Greene and Carol Andresen. Martha Brown is joining Carol to present a workshop session Saturday afternoon on newsletters!

Conference registration is \$145 per person (double occupancy – single room supplement is \$80.) E-mail our regional representative, John Wilhelm, at jwainc7@bellsouth.net for a registration form RIGHT NOW!

Help WFDD and Publicize FFCNC

There's still time to sign up for WFDD's spring pledge drive. By participating you will be able to meet WFDD's staff, see the studios, network with fellow listeners and enjoy a delicious meal. But most importantly, FFCNC will be recognized on air to WFDD's audience which spans 32 counties.

Join Judy Greene and the Meises on Tuesday, March 22 from 9 AM until noon at WFDD's location on the WFU campus. Or if you prefer, participate on Saturday, March 19 between 7 AM and 10 AM at the Volunteer Center of Greensboro on Yanceyville St. Still other times are available between March 16 – 23 (except Sunday, the 20th). View a complete list of volunteer shifts and reserve your preference at their website: <http://wfdd.org/vol>. Questions may be directed to Michael Terry, Volunteer Coordinator, at 758-8857.

2012 Exchanges Revealed

FFCNC has accepted an outbound exchange to Cascavel, Brazil for April of 2012....and an inbound exchange from Berlin, Germany in May or June! Your Exchanges Committee will be recruiting exchange directors for these exchanges in the coming months – so, if you are interested, please contact Paul Meis, Chair of the Exchanges Committee, for more information.

Cascavel is very near Iguazu Falls – a major tourist attraction (often compared to Niagra Falls) near the borders of Paraguay and Argentina. The Berlin group will also have an exchange with Western Kentucky either before or after visiting FFCNC.

Stay tuned for more information!!

Peru Inbound Dates May Change

Our 2011 exchange from Peru is under discussion...and may be scheduled earlier (in August instead of October.) The Peruvian ambassadors will also have an exchange visit with the Greater Atlanta chapter and would like to conclude the two exchanges with time in Washington D. C. Your co-exchange directors, Paul Meis and Ray Kiszely, will be in touch as soon as the timing issues are resolved. The inbound club is Lima – where FFCNC enjoyed an outbound exchange in 2007.

More information will be available next month!

January LEO Sets Record!

The LEO (Let's Eat Out) at Taste of Thai in Greensboro on January 15th was attended by over forty people – and almost half of them were non-members! Those who went on the New Zealand outbound exchange in November provided a most entertaining program, complete with a hilarious song about galoshes (gumboots as Kiwi's call them)! Beautiful photos taken by Doris Kiszely were shown continuously as attendees arrived. Each ambassador shared his or her favorite memory and co-exchange director, Barbara North, gave a narrated pictorial description of the North and South Island exchanges – and the several days of touring between them. There was time for small table sharing during the meal, and the buzz indicated a good time certainly was had by all.



NZ Ambassadors Sing at LEO January 15th



Singing the Gumboots Song

Meet Evelyn & Barton Parks

Evelyn and Barton Parks hail originally from Texas. Both graduated from SUNY Buffalo where Barton also received his PhD in Sociology and Evelyn her MA in Social Science . After positions at colleges in Vermont and Indiana, Barton began teaching Justice & Policy Studies at Guilford College in 1980—and has only recently retired. Evelyn worked for the Greensboro Urban Ministry for 25 years as Volunteer Coordinator. Their two grown daughters live in Greensboro and Richmond, VA.

The Parks have traveled extensively and had some unique experiences. Evelyn recounted a bike trip in Scotland where they were met at a B&B in Glasgow and put on a train with their bikes and maps. Told to get off the train in four hours, they were met by a guide who took their luggage in a taxi—so that they could ride the bikes for 20 miles to their next night's B&B! This went on for four or five more B&Bs. It was in September of 2001...and they learned about 9/11 from a Scot named Kitty McDonald.

Another and more recent experience was with WWOOF: World Wide Opportunities for Organic Farming. Two summers ago the Parks spent a week on the Dalmation Coast in Croatia tending gardens and enjoying the lovely seaside. They both biked and swam...and enjoyed having an apartment in the “artistic part of town.”

Friendship with Jane Cauthen led Evelyn to FFCNC. The Parks had planned to travel to New Zealand a number of years ago with Overseas Adventure Travel (OAT) but their trip was canceled. So they were pleased to join FFCNC this fall as ambassadors on our outbound exchange to New Zealand. You may have met them at the January LEO! They also dinner hosted an Azerbaijani guest in October.



2011 Calendar Highlights

March 26	World Friendship Day Celebration: GTCC Campus, Noon-2:00p
April 1-3	SouthEast Regional Conference, Black Mountain, NC
Sept. 17 – 22	Pre-exchange extension to NYC, Saratoga, and Montreal
Sept. 22 - 29	Outbound Exchange to Ottawa, Canada
Oct.	Inbound Exchange from Lima, Peru