



# friendship force

CENTRAL  
NORTH CAROLINA

## Fast Facts ~ July 2011

### Lake Norman Outing



Invitations have been sent to enjoy a Saturday covered dish lunch at the Lake Norman home of Marilyn Baird. Our event on July 23<sup>rd</sup> will be held from 11 AM until 3 PM. Barbecue will be provided for lunch. Please bring a beverage and a side dish or dessert to share. Don't forget your swimming suit and towel if you would like to take a dip in the lake. Guests are most welcome. **RSVP to Marilyn (768-2745 – home or 831-3115 – cell)** as soon as possible so she can plan appropriately. Pat Blakenship has graciously offered to drive members living in the Winston-Salem area. Pat lives in the Sherwood Forest area and is glad to have three or four members join him. If you are interested in car pooling with Pat, please contact him directly at 765-8337.

### Peru 2011 Inbound Exchange – Planning Continues

Exchange Directors, Paul Meis and Ray Kiszely, with assistance from Activities Chair, Val Stokes are busy preparing for our fall inbound exchange from Lima, Peru. A welcome party will be held at Stonefield Cellars Winery in Stokesdale on Thursday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> (the time to be determined when we know the arrival time of our guests.) A farewell covered dish dinner will be hosted at Val's house for all FFCNC members on Wednesday, Sep. 14<sup>th</sup>.

Three days of local activities will be planned for the weekdays. The highlight of this is likely to be the exhibit of Titanic artifacts tentatively scheduled for Sep. 12<sup>th</sup> at the Natural Science Center of Greensboro (<http://www.natsci.org/Titanic.html>.) We anticipate being able to offer all FFCNC members the opportunity to join our Peruvian guests that day and take advantage of the purchase of a group admission ticket. For more information about this, contact Ray Kiszely at 656-0945 or [RayKiszely@yahoo.com](mailto:RayKiszely@yahoo.com).

We are anxiously awaiting the final list of our Peruvian guests. The most recent information we received is that the group will consist of three couples and ten ambassadors who are traveling individually. Thus far nine FFCNC families have indicated an interest in hosting if schedules permit, etc. **Additional FFCNC host families would be greatly welcomed.** Numerous members have contacted Ray and indicated willingness to day host, drive, and/or host a dinner party, though there is always room for more. If you are interested in any of these options please contact Ray Kiszely.

## Ottawa Outbound Exchange – Set to Go!

No doubt our hot summer weather has our ambassadors to Ottawa yearning for the cool autumn days they will experience in September. Exchange Director, Ralph Cauthen, has dotted all the “i’s” and crossed all the “t’s.” All that remains to prepare for the exchange is the orientation meeting scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup> at the home of our member with Canadian ties – Patti Gilmour.

## Exchange Directors for 2012

As you know, 2012 will be a busy year for us with three exchanges. As previously reported, Marcia Meis and Judy Greene will serve as exchange directors for our in-bound exchange from Berlin on May 28 – June 1. Donna Lambeth and Ray Kiszely will serve as exchange directors for our in-bound exchange from Northern Ireland in September.

We are pleased to announce that Joe Logan has agreed to serve as exchange director for our out-bound exchange to Cascavel, Brazil in late September.

Many thanks go to *all* of our members who serve as exchange directors. It takes much planning to make the travel and hosting arrangements, budgets must be monitored, and there are always a few surprises to deal with. Homestay travel is the core objective of Friendship Force and without dedicated members such as these who are willing to commit their time for the benefit of all of our members, it would not be possible for FFCNC to exist. So please find an opportunity to thank these five members as well as our 2011 exchange directors, Paul Meis, Ray Kiszely and Ralph Cauthen.

## Community Artist, Todd Drake

If you missed our speaker, Todd Drake, at the annual meeting in October, 2010 or would like another look at his work, you are in luck. The International Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro is exhibiting his work during the month of July.

Todd Drake, a photographer, challenges each of us to open our hearts and look beyond stereotypes as we focus on his exhibit, “*Esse Quam Videri: Muslim American Self Portraits.*” In his words, “This project draws a richer portrait of Muslims living in the US, builds bridges between Muslims and non-Muslims, and promotes civic and cultural integration of Muslims into the wider society.”

## Please Raise Your Hand!



The fireworks from the Fourth of July have barely cooled off, but it's already time to think about our slate of officers for 2012. FFCNC President, Marcia Meis, will be forming a nominating committee whose responsibility will be to recommend members for the positions of President, President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, and Vice-President of Membership. If you are willing to serve on this committee, please contact her at 724-9540 or [pmeis@triad.rr.com](mailto:pmeis@triad.rr.com). This is not an extremely time consuming duty; however, it

is a very important one as the result of the committee's work will impact the direction and leadership of FFCNC into 2013.

### **FFCNC Member Directory**

We have one small correction for our FFCNC Membership Directory. Please note that Karla Shanahan's phone number is 336-659-0215. If you have not received your directory, please contact Ray Kiszely (656-0945 or [RayKiszely@yahoo.com](mailto:RayKiszely@yahoo.com).)

### **2011 Calendar Highlights**

July 23	LEO, Home of Marilyn Baird on Lake Norman, 11 - 3
Aug. 26 – 30	FFI World Conference; Hamburg, Germany
Sept. 8 – 14	Inbound Exchange from Lima, Peru
Sept. 17 – 22	Pre-exchange extension to NYC, Saratoga, and Montreal
Sept. 22 - 29	Outbound Exchange to Ottawa, Canada

### **2012 Calendar Highlights**

May 28 – June 1	Inbound Exchange from Berlin, Germany
Sept.	Inbound Exchange from Causeway Coast, UK
Sept	Outbound Exchange to Cascavel, Brazil