

Minutes of Friendship Force of Central North Carolina (FFCNC)

www.ffcnc.org

May 3, 2012

Present: Martha Brown, Ralph Cauthen, Judy Greene, Donna Lambeth, Marcia Meis, Barbara North, Peter Peiffer, Valerie Stokes and Marvin Scherl

The Board of Directors of FFCNC met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, May 3, 2012 at 11:45 a.m. at the Main Street United Methodist Church in Kernersville. The minutes of the last board meeting on March 1, 2012 were approved with previously circulated corrections.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was previously distributed to the Board by email. As of May 3, there is total cash available of \$ 4172.03. Assets in the Winston Salem Foundation as of 5/2/12 are \$16,980.18. A donation to charity in honor of the Peruvian exchange still needs to be given before the incoming Peru exchange budget can be closed out. We need to pursue wiring the money to the Peru club via the Atlanta office. On hold for the incoming Berlin exchange is \$1958.94. Expenses since March included the World Friendship Day celebration and the Berlin exchange. The treasurer's report was approved as distributed.

Membership: Marvin reported a total of 55 current memberships (family and individuals combined) for 2012 which is down from the 61 total for 2011. Membership has been slowly declining since 2008 when we had a high of 70 memberships. Of the 55 memberships, 20 are considered inactive.

Activities Committee: Valerie circulated a summary report of the club's activities since the last board meeting. A LEO was held on Saturday, March 3, at the Old Europe Restaurant in Winston-Salem. There were 36 in attendance. Karla Shanahan spoke on the food and customs of Germany. International World Friendship Day was celebrated on Saturday, March 31, on the campus of GTCC from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with a covered dish luncheon. Over 50 people attended including visitors from Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Jamaica, Thailand, and Venezuela. Unfortunately, the activity was poorly attended by the membership. Five students from High Point University volunteered their services by decorating the room. A guest from Bolivia shared a dance describing how women of stature walk in her homeland. A group from GTCC entertained at the end of the program with a flash dance. A summer outing is scheduled for July 28th at Marilyn Baird's home on Lake Norman.

Newsletter: Martha stated she needed any information for the newsletter by May 14th. The club currently does not have a policy on advertising for other clubs. The Board decided to leave any decision on advertising, i.e., exchanges, etc., to the discretion of the publisher.

2012 Exchanges:

Incoming Berlin – Marcia and Judy circulated a copy of the daily activities scheduled for the exchange which is scheduled for May 20-26. Visits to Blowing Rock and to the Mendenhall Plantation in Jamestown are two of the new points of interest for the week's itinerary. Judy has put together a very nice booklet for the ambassadors on their exchange program. The number of people for the exchange has dropped to nine ambassadors. Everyone in the club is invited to the welcome and farewell events. The farewell dinner will also be held at a new venue, the Delta

Arts Center in Winston-Salem. Family hosting will be provided by the Lambeth's, Peiffer's, Meis', Kaczmarek's, Kiszely's, and the Park's plus numerous day hosts will also be involved. Small group dinners are being planned in Greensboro and Winston-Salem. An orientation meeting is scheduled for this coming Saturday, May 5th.

Outbound Cascavel, – only 6 persons have committed to this trip which includes one person from Olympia, WA. Peter, who is currently the co-ed, will likely not be able to go on the exchange due to a newly diagnosed medical condition. If there are not at least ten persons interested in the exchange by the end of the month, the exchange will be cancelled. (Note: the exchange was later cancelled due to low recruitment.)

2013 Exchanges:

An outbound exchange to Australia in July 2013 was approved by the Board. This exchange will include two homestays; one with the Bundaberg club and the other with the Sunshine Coast club. An ED or two co-EDs are needed for this exchange. Although this exchange is currently scheduled for July of 2013, the exchange directors can adjust the dates to another mutually agreeable time of the year.

Our club was not given an international inbound exchange for 2013. The demand for exchanges to this country does not meet the supply of hosting. We may still be asked to participate with special programs. Domestic exchanges can also be arranged between clubs.

As part of its Global Expansion Plan for 2012-2014, Atlanta is putting effort into themed exchanges in trying to appeal to a younger population that is very service oriented. The Board brain-stormed on some possible themes our club could explore with FFI in the future. Some of the theme ideas included golf, wine trail, historical, mountains to the coast, BBQ. The theme exchanges could even be coordinated with other clubs in our state.

Some advice from the current inbound Berlin co-ED's for future inbound exchanges included avoiding mid-May to mid-June dates. The colleges are out and many cultural activities are over or not yet available for the summer. It was also advised to include a full weekend during the exchange for host family activities.

President's Council: Peter and Barbara are registered to attend the meeting on May 18-20 in Asheville, NC.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until the next board meeting on Thursday, July 12th, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara North for Ophelia Jones