



# friendship force

CENTRAL  
NORTH CAROLINA

*Our mission is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people.*

## Fast Facts ~ November 2013

### **Pike's Peak Friendship Force of Colorado**

Many thanks and much praise go to Laura Lennon, exchange director for our inbound exchange from Colorado, for organizing this domestic exchange. Domestic exchanges differ in some respects from international inbound exchanges. On rare occasions, as with this one, our guests arrive in their personal cars at different times making a traditional welcome with guests, hosts, and club members impractical. Laura saw this and other challenges as opportunities and developed a successful schedule for the week. Because of the varied arrival plans and the fact that there were no language barriers, participants in this exchange did not meet as a group until their visit at the SciQuarium the morning after their arrival. That allowed guests more flexibility the day/evening of arrival to rest from their drives and become acquainted with their hosts.



*Hosts and guests from Pike'sPeak FF, Colorado pause for a group photo in front of Reynolda House.*

Another challenge of the week was presented with the federal government shut-down. A visit to the Guilford Battleground was on the schedule! But it was scheduled on our lucky day – the first day the park reopened. Better still for our group – due to the shut-down, the park was not busy that day as school groups had cancelled their visits when the shut-down began.

There were several history buffs among our group of Colorado guests and they were very pleased to visit both Old Salem and the Battleground, both of which they knew little about. The highlight of the week was a visit to Graham, N. C. to see “The Art of the Brick” Lego art exhibit at the lovely Capt. White House (1873) which is the home of the Alamance Arts Council in Graham. The exhibit is currently showing in six countries around the world, but with very limited showings in the US. So those who made the trip to Graham were lucky to see this amazing exhibit.

Our farewell event was limited to guests and hosts due to space limitations. The group had dinner at Liberty Oak restaurant and then attended "The Top of the Mountain" at Triad Stage. The play is about the last night of Martin Luther King's life and tied in well with Monday's earlier visit to the Civil Rights Museum.

Shortly upon their return home our Colorado guests were already extending an invitation for FFCNC to visit them. Laura will follow up on possible dates for such an out-bound FFCNC domestic exchange. 2015 seems the likely timeframe, though there is a possibility it could be scheduled in 2014.

One might question why Friendship Force, an organization whose mission statement is “To promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people,” would be involved in domestic exchanges. There are several reasons for this. For new members considering their first exchange, a domestic exchange may be less intimidating than an international exchange. For older members who may have health or physical limitations, domestic travel may be easier. For working members with busy schedules and tight budgets, domestic travel is usually less expensive and the exchanges are usually of a shorter duration. But most importantly for all FF members, domestic exchanges provide the opportunity to increase one's knowledge of our own country and cultural differences within the United States. And one last benefit – it's nice to have friends in places you would like to visit. Seems like the Lennons may be planning a ski trip to Breckenridge, Colorado in the near future. Hmmmm. I wonder who they will be visiting there????

## **2014 Out-bound Exchange is Expanding**

### **Moldova**

We are pleased to announce that Barton Parks has agreed to be the exchange director for our 2014 outbound exchange to Moldova. As we mentioned in the last newsletter, this exchange will differ from typical out-bound exchanges. FFCNC has agreed to mentor a group in Chisinau, Moldova as they form a new Friendship Force club, the first in Moldova. This will be their first ever exchange hosting ambassadors (FFCNC!) from another country.

Many of you may remember Mariana Tourcan, the facilitator who accompanied the Open World delegation last fall. She has been instrumental in organizing the first steps of this new Moldovan club and she will act as their exchange director for this first exchange.

Our visit there will not be “all work and no play,” but there will be an element of work as FFCNC ambassadors share their expertise with the new Moldovan FF members. Our role as ambassadors will be to mentor our counterparts regarding such issues as how to recruit members, organize meetings, conduct an exchange, publish newsletters, etc. One of Barton's

duties will be to select a group of ambassadors who possess a range of these skills and experience so that we can provide guidance to the new club.

At this time it is our understanding that the Moldovan members can host fifteen ambassadors. The exchange will take place in September 2014 and last approximately one week. We should learn more details, such as exact dates, later in November. Due to the limited capacity of the Moldovans to host and the mentoring nature of this exchange, it may be necessary to interview potential ambassadors and select the final group of ambassadors. This will in part be dependent on the amount of interest expressed by FFCNC members.

If you want to know more about this exchange, please contact Barton. If you know you are interested you should let him know that as soon as possible. Along with knowing your interest, Barton also needs to know the skills and knowledge you have about Friendship Force that will be useful to a group forming a new club. You may contact him at 292-4699 or [bapjr@bellsouth.net](mailto:bapjr@bellsouth.net) with this information.

## **Turkey**

There is a lot of excitement over the opportunity to assist our friends in Moldova with the creation of a new club. At the same time, your board felt it important to be able to offer an out-bound exchange on which all members, even newly recruited members, could participate. With that goal in mind, FFCNC asked FFI in Atlanta if it would be possible to offer a second week of home hosting with another FF club.

We have just learned that FF Ankara, Turkey has offered to host FFCNC following (most likely) the visit to Moldova. This club has been dormant for the last few years and is anxious to resume home hosting. You may remember that in October 2008 FFCNC hosted the FF club from Cankaya, Turkey. Cankaya is a suburb of Ankara, so this exchange may present the opportunity to reconnect with some of our former guests.

A second exchange director will be selected to arrange the exchange to Ankara. The initial thinking is that there will be some travel between the two home hostings and also that members will have the flexibility to participate in one exchange **or** the other **or** both. Look for more information about these plans after the New Year. If you would be interested in serving as the exchange director for the Ankara exchange, please contact Barbara North at 643-0985 or [woodnotes2004@yahoo.com](mailto:woodnotes2004@yahoo.com).

## **2014 In-bound Exchanges**

Be careful what you wish for. Remember that expression? Earlier this year when FFI announced the matchings for 2014 in-bound and out-bound exchanges, we were disappointed that FFCNC was not assigned an in-bound international exchange. Well, get that guest room ready because the first few months of 2014 will bring us not one, but two opportunities to host!

## **Open World from Kosovo**

Once again we have been asked to develop an Open World program for a group of delegates, this time from Kosovo. Ray Kiszely and Ralph Cauthen, having both worked with previous Open World programs, jumped at the chance to serve as co-exchange directors. We have been told that this delegation will arrive in the Triad on January 10, 2014 and depart on January 18. As is always the case with Open World programs, this duo will be charged with the task of developing a forty hour program on one of several relevant themes suggested by Open World. FFCNC is proposing a program about "Women Leaders." It is too early to know the size of the



delegation and its composition, but if our suggested theme is accepted the delegation will likely be all women.

It will be a challenge to plan and organize both the program and home hosting during the busy holiday season, but this gives Ray and Ralph no hesitation. They hope that many of you will be interested in assisting in some capacity whether it be hosting, transportation, arranging for speakers, etc. If you have any suggestions regarding the program (assuming the theme proposed is accepted), would like to host (day or night), or are interested in assisting in any other capacity, please contact Ray at 301-580-3253 or [RayKiszely@hotmail.com](mailto:RayKiszely@hotmail.com) or Ralph at 299-2089 or [rbcauthen@aol.com](mailto:rbcauthen@aol.com) **as soon as possible**. Developments on this exchange are likely to move very quickly as the arrival date is just two months away! *So don't delay in contacting Ray and Ralph.*

### **FF of Edmonton, Canada**

FFCNC has been approached by the FF club of Edmonton, Canada with a request to visit the Triad in the spring and the board was glad to approve this request. Specific dates have not been finalized, but we are suggesting a visit in early April 2014. This group will probably number about twenty ambassadors so, between the Open World group from Kosovo and the FF of Edmonton, there will be a need for many home hosts in the coming months.

An exchange director will also be needed to plan activities for our guests from Edmonton. If you are willing to serve as the exchange director for this in-bound exchange, please contact Barbara North at 643-0985 or [woodnotes2004@yahoo.com](mailto:woodnotes2004@yahoo.com).

### **2013 Annual Meeting**

The rain didn't dampen the spirits of our members and visitors from Pikes Peak Colorado Friendship Force at the annual meeting on October 17<sup>th</sup> in Kernersville. The room was welcoming in fall flowers and colors. The array of potluck dishes sparked everyone's appetite as we all ate our fill.

After welcoming our guests, Barbara North called the meeting to order and the business session was conducted post haste. The slate of nominated officers was announced, voted upon, and approved. The board members, who are appointed by the president and complete the board membership along with the officers, were also announced.

Before the business session was closed, Marvin Scherl was acknowledged for his many years of service as Membership and records Chair. Valerie Stokes, responsible for setting up many of our FFCNC functions during her tenure, was also recognized for her service as Activities Chair. Thank you, Marvin and Val. We could not have enjoyed many of our activities without you.



*Carol and Fred Andresen try their feet at line dancing with guest, Barbara Battersby, while Hal Guess follows their lead from the row behind.*

Our outbound exchange in September 2014 to Moldova was announced. Barton Parks will lead this exchange. The purpose of the exchange is to assist the Moldavians in establishing a Friendship Force Club. More will follow in the coming months on the particulars of this exchange.

The returning ambassadors from Australia each gave a special highlight of their trip and the warm "Aussie Hospitality" they received. As a tribute to our new friends, the entire audience was invited to sing "Waltzing Matilda", the unofficial national anthem of Australia.

Our visitors from Colorado treated all of us to a lesson in line dancing which proved to some that they really do have two left feet!

The evening came to an end much too quickly. Everyone said goodnight with promises to get together soon.

Many thanks go to Val Stokes and Ralph Cauthen for making the evening a success.

## 2014 Board Announced

The following FFCNC members have graciously volunteered their time and skills to serve on our 2014 board. President, Barbara North, has expanded the size of the board with the inclusion of several At-Large members. These members will not have specific responsibilities such as a chairman (example: membership, activities, communications, etc.), but will certainly offer their advice during board meetings and, no doubt, will pitch in and help as the need arises. Please welcome the following members to the 2014 board:

President	Barbara North
President-Elect	Leroy Stokes
Secretary	Ophelia Jones
Treasurer	Tim Prout
Vice-President & Membership Chair/2013 ED	Judy Greene
Communications Chair	Martha Brown
At-Large/Webmaster	Nancy Russell
At-Large/Newsletter	Doris Kiszely
At-Large/Invitations	Marta Rhodes
At-Large/Speaker's Bureau/2013 & 2014 ED	Ray Kiszely
At-Large	Karla Shannahan
At-Large	Hal Guess
At-Large	Bill Doran
At-Large	Marvin Scherl
2013 ED	Laura Lennon
2013 ED	Peter Peiffer
2014 ED	Barton Parks
2014 ED	Ralph Cauthen

### Tim Prout

We are pleased to introduce one of our new Board members, Tim Prout. Tim will serve as Treasurer for the club.

Tim grew up in Wilmette, Illinois where he attended New Trier High School. Tim met and married his wife Nan while both were attending the Rhode Island School of Design. A few years after graduation they traveled to Europe for 9 months. After returning to the United States, they would frequently travel to Holland to visit Nan's relatives as well as Scandinavia and other parts of Europe and Canada.



In 1968 Tim and Nan moved to South Florida. Tim was employed as an Industrial Designer and later as a high school teacher for the Broward County Public Schools. They adopted their two children, Christa and Nick, while living in Ft. Lauderdale.

By 1982 South Florida had lost its luster for the family and they left to find a more wholesome area in which to raise their children. So with a wing and a prayer they headed north. Both Tim and Nan had a love and appreciation for the arts and Nan was interested in capitalizing on her keen interest in Costume Design. The North Carolina School of the Arts attracted them to the Winston-Salem area.

Tim retired five years ago from Toter in Statesville where he used his talents in Industrial Design to design plastic products. Sadly, Nan passed away in May of 2011. Tim's son now lives in San Francisco and his daughter and two grandkids live in Richmond, Virginia.

Tim and Nan became involved with Friendship Force in 2000 after reading an ad in the Winston paper announcing an invitation to join Friendship Force for an outbound exchange to Japan. As the saying goes, "that's all she wrote." He has been actively involved ever since. Tim has both hosted visitors in his home as well as served as a day host. Tim has also been active with the Open World Programs that our club has hosted both from Moldova and the Republic of Georgia, providing them with interesting activities and hospitality. In October he joined the Asheville club on an outbound exchange to South America where they were hosted by three clubs in Brazil.

I am sure you will join us in welcoming Tim to the Board and thanking him in advance for his service to our club.

## **Who Are You?**

If you attended the FFCNC annual meeting you were given an Interest Survey to take home, complete, and mail to Donna Lambeth. You may be wondering what an Interest Survey is. And if you were unable to attend the meeting, you may be asking, "What about me?" Have no fear. We are anxious to hear from each and every FFCNC member!

The success of all that we do in FFCNC – planning exchanges, organizing membership activities, publishing the newsletter, recruiting new members, even managing our finances – is dependent on tapping into the wealth of resources we have among our 100 or so members.

The purpose of the survey is to help us know all of our members better including a little about each person's background, skill sets, and interests. When planning an in-bound exchange, seeking ideas for membership activities, searching for potential candidates for the next board, and a host of other occasions, your board often finds itself asking those sitting around the table, "Who might be a good member to get involved with this?" Your responses on the Interest Survey will help immeasurably at those times, but more importantly, it will insure that all of our members are always considered when help is needed.

In the Interest Survey we will ask you which club activities interest you the most, what your hosting capabilities and interests are, and finally we will ask you to tell us about yourself – your professional background, volunteer experiences, and hobbies.

For those of you who did not receive an Interest Survey at our annual meeting or if you have misplaced the one you took home, a copy is attached to the email with this newsletter. You may either 1.) print it, complete it, and mail it to Donna Lambeth (her address will be found on the last page) or 2.) save it on your computer, complete it, and email it to Donna Lambeth at [Dilambeth@triad.rr.com](mailto:Dilambeth@triad.rr.com). If you choose to email it, please make the subject heading "FF Survey."

We are asking everyone to **please return their survey to Donna by November 17**. This is just one week from now! But the holidays are around the corner and we know other things will be on your mind. In order to be certain that we hear from all of our members, beginning November 18 we will contact those from whom a survey has not yet been received.

If you have further questions about the Interest Survey, please feel free to contact Barbara North at 643-0985 or [woodnotes2004@yahoo.com](mailto:woodnotes2004@yahoo.com).

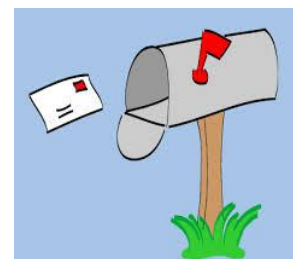
## 2014 Travel Opportunities

Several Friendship Force clubs around the country have contacted us with information about available spaces on their 2014 outbound exchanges. Every Friendship Force member is welcome to join another club on its exchange when there is extra capacity. This is often a great way to travel to a special destination in which you are interested or at a time of year that better suits your schedule. Check the Friendship Force International website for a complete list. Here are a few that have contacted us recently. More information on these exchanges will be found on their clubs' websites and/or FFI's website.

- Berlin and Poland, May 15 – June 1. Contact Stephanie Sorensen of FF Madison, WI, [stevils@charter.net](mailto:stevils@charter.net) or 608-819-6646.
- Bogota and Cartagena, Columbia, Feb. 21 – March 3. Contact Sue Hill of FF of Greater Lansing, MI, [sjh2725@gmail.com](mailto:sjh2725@gmail.com), 517-281-7292.
- Taiwan, March 15 – 29. Contact Ted Powell at [deerpathted@gmail.com](mailto:deerpathted@gmail.com).

## Coming Soon to Your Mailbox

**Soon you will receive your 2014 dues statement. Avoid the holiday rush and *please* send it in as soon as possible.**



## 2014 Calendar Highlights

January 9	Board Meeting; 11:45 AM MSUMC; Kernersville
January 10 – 18	Open World delegation from Kosovo
January	LEO (date tbd); speaker: Lundee Amos; topic: "Laughter"
March 6	Board Meeting; 11:45 AM MSUMC; Kernersville
April	In-bound exchange from Edmonton, Canada (date tbd)
May 1	Board Meeting; 11:45 AM MSUMC; Kernersville
July 10	Board Meeting; 11:45 AM MSUMC; Kernersville
September 4	Board Meeting; 11:45 AM MSUMC; Kernersville
September	Out-bound exchange to Moldova & Ankara, Turkey (date tbd)
November 6	Board Meeting; 11:45 AM MSUMC; Kernersville