



## *WINTER SEASON'S GREETINGS!*

*JOIN OUR EVENING OF CELEBRATION AS WE CLOSE  
THE 2018 YEAR OF GAINING AND RENEWING  
FRIENDSHIPS FROM AROUND THE WORLD --*

*NOR PERU*

*CENTRAL-NORTH CAROLINA*

*PLUS*

*JOURNEYS JOINED*

*WITH OTHER FF CLUBS*

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 4 – 8 P.M.**

*HOME OF TED AND RITA POWELL*

*(SEE MORE INFORMATION ON PAGE 3)*

## Calendar of Events

**December 12, Wednesday, 1 p.m.**  
**FFOMWV Board Meeting**  
Albany Public Library conf. room.

**December 14, Friday, 4 - 8 p.m.,**  
**End-of-the-year Celebration,**  
holiday gathering and meal at  
home of Ted and Rita Powell

**January 9, Wednesday, 1 p.m.**  
**FFOMWV Board Meeting**  
(location to be announced)

**January 14, Monday, 11:30 a.m.**  
**MEG luncheon** at Vault244 Bistro  
244 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. W., Albany

**January 20, Sunday, 2 p.m.**  
**Gathering.** Program will include  
installation of new officers for  
2019. More information will be sent.

## Sunshine News

Contact Sue Stein with news.



friendship force  
INTERNATIONAL

Experience different views.  
Discover common ground.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by CHRIS DUVAL*

Friends:

In my last President's Message of 2018, I want to thank you all for your support for me and for the entire board during this year. When I agreed to be nominated for the position of President, I was unsure whether it would be a good fit for me. Perhaps it would be too stressful, too difficult, too much work. I said that I would agree to one year, but would need the option to reconsider and not serve for a two-year period if it turned out that it was too much for me to take on.

Well, here we are, with one year under our belts, and the board has been so easy to work with and so willing to share the work load, that it has been a pleasure, and I have enthusiastically agreed to serve another year, as have our other officers as well. I hope that 2019 proves to be as smooth as 2018.

I want to highlight a couple of major achievements of 2018. With huge thanks to the efforts of Marilyn Peterson, we have a new website! Please check it out and let Marilyn know how much you appreciate this updated website. It serves as the first look that many people have of our club, and the new version represents us well.

I also want to give recognition to the team of Ann Sickles, Kathy Butler, Rosella Workinger, Russ Karow, and Rita Powell, who worked to save, store, sort, and purge our accumulation of archives and historical materials this year. Russ, in particular, continues to research how we might best store our archives. His efforts are appreciated. Rosella, who served as archivist for years and years, finally was able to hand off the duties and know that things are well in hand. Thanks, Rosella for your years of service to the club. Rita, and her husband Ted, have served the club in so many ways over the years, and our appreciation goes to their storage of club materials at their home – some of which are being sorted and reduced at this time too.

It takes many individuals to do the work of the club. Thanks to each of you who, in big ways and small, contribute to FFOMWV. Here's looking forward to another productive year!

In friendship,

Chris

## Friendship Force Pledge

As a member of the Friendship Force, I recognize that I can make a difference. I recognize that I have a mission. That mission is to be a friend to the people of the world. As I embark upon this adventure, I know that others will be watching me. I know that through my example to my fellow citizens and the people of other nations, the cause of friendship, love and peace can be furthered. I can make a difference.

## **DECEMBER GATHERING** *BY EILEEN MINETTE*

We will be meeting at Rita and Ted Powell's home at 2550 Stiles Rd., Dallas, for our End of the Year and Holiday Gathering on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Appetizers and drinks will be served starting at 4:00 pm followed by a potluck dinner at 5:00 pm.

After we have eaten our fill of delicious food, we will have a white elephant exchange. This is always a fun activity to see what other guests have brought and try to end up with possibly the one gift you just can't live without!

To add your name to the guest list, or if you would like to carpool, or have questions, please call or email Eileen.

These are dishes that are coming so far:

Appetizers (2)

Main dish casserole (2)

Meatloaf and mashed potatoes

Baked chicken, Chicken and rice bake

Baked beans

Potato casserole

Cole slaw, Green salad,

Ambrosia Salad, Deviled eggs

Desserts (3)

Wine and beer

## **TIME TO GET MOVING ON FRIENDSHIP SHARED** *BY VAN NICHOLS*

### **Remember these super fun and clever gatherings in 2018?**



It is time to start planning for next year's **Friendship Shared** events. Last year started with stone soup and ended with a campfire dinner and sing along. The money raised has been placed in the Journey account.

These funds will be used to help support adventures to be shared with incoming ambassadors. Let me know if you have a date and event in mind.

**Our club is on Facebook!**

**Please "Like" us at the Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley**

## 2019 JOURNEY INFORMATION

### **Outbound to Missoula, Montana, May 9 - 16** *BY RITA POWELL*

It's time to send in your Ambassador Application so you, too, can participate in our group's outbound journey to Missoula, Montana! Why?



They have some great activities planned including: bike riding, touring the Smoke Jumper Base and the National Bison Range.



In addition, of course, your host families will want to share some of their favorite interests with you.

For more information, contact Journey Coordinators Rita Powell or Eileen Minette.

### **Inbound from Greater Atlanta, Georgia, August 13 – 21**

*BY JOHN WOLCOTT*

Mark your calendar! We have confirmed the dates for the incoming visit of the Atlanta, Georgia Friendship Force guests. Those of you who went with us to Atlanta in 2017 know what a great group of people they are. In addition to hosts we will want day hosts and small dinner hosts, so there will be plenty for all of us to do. We are considering a visit to the Grand Ronde Reservation and possibly a whale watching boat trip, so it should be lots of fun! Let us know how you want to participate by contacting the Journey Coordinators, John Wolcott or Mary Ellen Lind

### **Outbound to New Zealand, (tentative dates) October 10 - 27**

*BY MARILYN PETERSON*

New Zealand: Here We Come!



Our club has been matched with Whangarei and New Plymouth, New Zealand for 2019. Chris Duval and Marilyn Peterson are co-ambassador coordinators. The tentative schedule for our trip follows: October 10 Depart Portland airport; Oct 10 Overnight hotel near Honolulu airport; Oct 12 arrive Auckland for overnight in hotel (meeting place for ambassadors); Oct 13 - 19 Whangarei Journey; Oct 19 - 21 Rotorua - geologically active area with cultural opportunities (2 nights hotel); Oct 21 - 27 New Plymouth; Oct 27 departure for post-journey activities. The dates may vary due to flight schedules. Post journey activities will be discussed at a meeting in January of those interested in this trip. All ambassadors will meet in Auckland regardless of their flight arrangements.

If you are interested in this trip and have not signed up, please contact Marilyn or Chris.

### **Journey Booklets** *BY MARILYN PETERSON*

For each inbound journey Marilyn Peterson creates booklets which are given to each ambassador and host. She is searching for someone to help with the booklet creation as there are three inbound journeys in 2019. If you could help with writing the content or having the booklet printed, please contact Marilyn.

# **SUMMARY OF JOURNEYS AND CONFERENCES** *BY RITA POWELL*

## **2019 Inbound**

June (Rose Festival)

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Brenda Kane – President and Acting Journey Chair

Host JC needed

August 13 - 21

Greater Atlanta, Georgia

Ambassador JC: Judy Hausmann

Hosts JCs: John Wolcott and Mary Ellen Lind

September (mid to late, 3 or 4 days)

Fort Worth, Texas

11 ambassadors

Ambassador JCs: Dave Frick, Linda Doyle, Dave Home

Host JC needed

## **2019 Outbound**

May 9 - 16

Missoula, Montana

14 Ambassadors – **only 5 spaces left!**

Host JC: Michael Flanagan

Ambassador JCs: Rita Powell and Eileen Minette

October 10 – 27 (tentative dates)

Whangarei and New Plymouth, New Zealand

20 ambassadors +

Ambassador JCs: Marilyn Peterson and Chris Duval

## **2019 International Conference**

July 23-27: Boulder, Colorado

## **2020 Inbound and Outbound**

Reciprocal visits Spring or Fall:

Denver, Colorado (plus Pikes Peak/2021)

Lynn Dawson

**NOTE:** You must complete an application to be an Ambassador for an outbound journey or to be a Host for an inbound journey. You can get the forms by going to the website and downloading: [thefriendshipforce.org](http://thefriendshipforce.org). Click onto Member Resources. Next, click on to Best Practices Resources. You will find a listing that includes both Host and Ambassador Application Forms. You can select to download either form. Mail the completed form to our JC, as listed above.

## **FRIENDSHIP FORCE INTERNATIONAL NEWS *BY MARILYN PETERSON***

Thank you to Laura Romero for being our November speaker. We enjoyed seeing the video of the first Friendship Force Exchange. Laura presented extremely interesting and useful information about FFI staff and organization.

Marilyn Peterson has been elected to the Friendship Force International Board of Directors starting this January. NOTE FROM PRESIDENT CHRIS: Wow, It's such an honor to have Marilyn on the FFI board. With her knowledge and experience, we know she will do an excellent job of representing the membership of our club and other clubs. CONGRATULATIONS, MARILYN!

## **WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA *BY MARILYN PETERSON***

Our website now has a co-administrator, Dennis Murphy. Having multiple administrators or webmasters on any website is a necessity. Thank you, Dennis, for being willing to help maintain our site.

If you have content that you would like to see on our club's website, please contact Marilyn Peterson or Dennis Murphy. If you would like to add content to our club Facebook page, please contact Marilyn or Chris Duval. Our website has been designed following the FFI style guide as should all communications representing our club or Friendship Force International. If you have questions about the style guide, please contact Marilyn Peterson. It is important that we present our organization in a consistent and attractive manner.

## **MEG – MEET, EAT, GET ACQUAINTED LUNCHEON *BY JANE RAKONCZAY***

The next MEG luncheon will be on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at the Vault 244 Bistro at 244 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. W. in Albany. Please call Jane by Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup> if you plan to come so she can make the proper number of reservations. You are welcome to bring friends who may be interested in Friendship Force.

Call or email Jane. We hope to see you there!



## **CALL FOR SPEAKERS *BY JOHN FRANCIS***

**Give a short talk on any aspect of travel you wish: a country you liked, packing tips, places to avoid, etc.**

FFI members John Francis and Caye Poe will hold their fifth annual Travel Expo on Saturday morning, April 13 in Dayton. There's a new speaker every 15 minutes from 9 a.m. to noon on topics as varied as the best place for

If you have an idea for a talk, give Caye or John a call and discuss it.



# Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley Membership Application or Renewal

Please complete one form for each member. Annual dues cover the cost of the monthly newsletter and expenses for Journeys and activities of the Friendship Force of Oregon's Mid-Willamette Valley, as well as membership in Friendship Force International, which provides discounted prices on Journey travel and other benefits. Memberships expire on December 31 of each year.

**IT'S TIME TO RENEW!**

Annual dues: Individual, \$30.00

Please print clearly:

This is a NEW \_\_\_\_\_ or RENEWAL \_\_\_\_\_ application.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (one person per form, please)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Members have opportunities to participate in some of the following activities: travel on international and domestic Journeys; host incoming Ambassadors overnight and participate in planned activities; day host Ambassadors; provide small group dinners; provide rides to non-driving members to meetings and events; enjoy lunches together; and serve in leadership roles. We invite you to become involved!

**Mail to: Friendship Force, P.O. Box 1703, Albany, OR 97322**



**Our mission is to promote global understanding across the barriers that separate people. Each individual can make a contribution to global goodwill. The Friendship Force worldwide network of clubs and individuals seeks to overcome differences among people and nations.**

**NOTES FROM NEWSLETTER EDITOR, Mary Ellen Lind**

Due to my travels over the end of the year there will not be a January, 2019 issue of Friendship Connections. News and reminders will be emailed by Marilyn Peterson.

The deadline for the February, 2019 issue will be January 25, 2019.

***This Issue of Connections, and more information about our club, may be found on our website: <http://www.fforegon.org>  
Contact us at: [fforegon@comcast.net](mailto:fforegon@comcast.net) or PO Box 1703, Albany, Oregon 97321***