

FRIENDSHIP

FORCE of

KNOXVILLE

Vol.16, No.6

June Meeting

“HAVE LUNCH ON THE CLUB”

Noon Tuesday June 3rd

Surin of Thailand

6213 Kingston Pike, Knoxville

Mark your calendar now for the next FFK luncheon and meeting. This will be your chance to “Have Lunch on the Club”.

Everyone will receive a raffle ticket for the drawing for a free lunch.

This will be a great opportunity to bring that friend or neighbor giving them a chance to learn more about Friendship Force. If your ticket or theirs is drawn you both get a free lunch.

Couples are not left out either. If either ticket is drawn, both will get a free lunch, and if they bring a guest they get a free lunch too!

Who said “there is no such thing as a free lunch?”

What a great way to welcome in summer. I hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Panos Ioannides

President’s Note

Our Knoxville Friendship Force members have always been ready to participate and help in all club activities.

So it has been again this year with a successful Website development through which we have received several inquires from individuals requesting information about our club. Our Membership Committee has had a 90% response to the survey that was developed to find effective ways to attract and keep members. As a result of these efforts, a number of new people have joined us.

At our World Friendship Day celebration on March 1st we had our first Chinese auction that was fun for all. Also, twenty-eight members attended our "Out-To-Lunch" gathering on April 1st.

On April 29th, we welcomed an Open World Russian delegation of six young business leaders and a professional interpreter, each with a variety of interests. The program developed for their seven day stay, gave them opportunity to make new friends.

Please tell your friends about our club and invite them to come anytime. By joining us it will give them a great opportunity to make new friends.

Open World Welcome Pot-Luck

Tuesday evening April 29th 27 members of Friendship Force of Knoxville along with two guests welcomed the six delegates from Russia and one interpreter that came up to Knoxville from Atlanta for this Open World Program. They are:

Yelena Dronova, Irina Fan-Yung, Tatyana Leonteva, , Olesya Ogutsova,, Mariya Sveshnikova, Natalya Uchusova and Elena Goldis from Atlanta

After a plentiful meal coupled with lively conversation each of the delegates took time to share with everyone some information about themselves, where they came from, their education, families and employment.

They treated everyone to a few choruses of Russian songs. Not to be outdone, the music of Rocky Top was played giving these ladies the opportunity to learn to dance to some of the favorite music of East Tennessee.

The evening continued with Friendship Force members and their guests learning various drum beats on a large table. A fun evening ended as delegates needed to prepare for their upcoming activities that began the next day.

Open World Program

The interesting and exciting week with the Russian delegates ended on Tuesday evening May 6th with a Farewell Dinner at RJ's Courtyard. Everyone enjoyed the food, companionship and live dulcimer music. During the past week these women entrepreneurs were also welcomed by representatives of the Knoxville's Mayor's Office.

They had the opportunity of touring the Knoxville-News Sentinel headquarters and exchanging information on mass media here and in Russia. They also met with Cynthia Moxley CEO of Moxley-Carmichael, a large public relations firm and Gay Lyons, CEO of the Knoxville Magazine.

Meetings with Judges Thomas Varlan and Bill Swann gave the delegates insights into the operations of the both Federal and County courts. Judge Varlan provided valuable information on mediation as they were especially interested in that subject.

Leaders of the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Tennessee Valley Authority provided an overview of various economic developments in East Tennessee.

They met with Scripps Network Interactive to learn about television broadcasting.

An all day visit to DeRoyal Industries gave the delegates a chance to meet and discuss with five senior women managers their responsibilities and functions within DeRoyal Industries.

One afternoon the group split with some meeting Mike Nassios, an attorney to discuss litigating in both private and corporate matters including mediation. Some visited with Rea Christodoulou the owner of World Ventures Tours & Travel, Inc. to discuss tourism in the United States.

They enjoyed the YWCA fundraising luncheon with over 400 women and subsequently toured the YWCA facility and participated in a discussion about the services offered there.

Very early Wednesday morning May 7th the delegates began their long journey home We wish them a safe trip, with our thanks for giving us the opportunity to share some of East Tennessee with them.

Outgoing Exchange

To Northeast Ohio, June 9- 13

On Monday, June 9th twelve members of FFK will be driving up to Northeast Ohio for an exciting week to explore parts of the "North Coast".

Their visit will begin with a Welcome Pot-Luck Dinner at the beautiful Lakefront Lodge on the shores of Lake Erie.

Tuesday will begin with a trolley tour of Greater Cleveland followed by a lunch at Don's Lighthouse Grille. The afternoon can be spent enjoying the sights and sounds of Cleveland.

Wednesday is an open day giving the Ambassadors an opportunity to visit any of the venues they saw on Tuesday. They may wish to visit the West Side Market near downtown or travel out to University Circle for a private tour by a FFNEO docent at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

While in the area the flower lovers can also go to the 10 acre Cleveland Botanical Garden and its 18,000 sq. foot greenhouse. The history minded Ambassadors can tour the Western Reserve Historical Society buildings that include the Crawford Auto Aviation Wing.

Some may want to go downtown to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Thursday is an all day visit to Amish Country. Ohio has more than 55,000 Amish making it their largest settlements in the United States. The Ambassadors will have an opportunity to see a livestock auction. A must stop will be the Lehman's Hardware Store serving the Amish with their non-electrical needs.

RALEIGH EXCHANGE

We need one more host family!!

We are expecting fourteen Ambassadors, arriving Monday, October 20 and leaving Friday October 24. Can you help? There were a dozen of us who enjoyed their hospitality last year and we want to return the opportunity to entertain them in our lovely mountains. Please call The DuBois, Exchange Directors (865 691-8560) and say YES.

New Members

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Membership Campaign

June 30th ends the 2014 Membership Campaign. It is the last opportunity this year to bring a neighbor or friend into Friendship Force. New Members this year have a free membership along with a free membership badge. When that new member renews their membership next year your personal membership will be free. So bring them to the June event. What a great deal for everyone.

Club Concerns

Anyone who knows of something involving our members (happy, sad, etc.) please contact Renee Ioannides at either 691-7878 or by email at rioannides@msn.com.

Birthday and Anniversary Wishes

The members of the Club send

**Roger Frey
&
Nancy Schowalter**

best wishes on their **birthdays**.

The Club Members also congratulate

Jon & Janet Murray

on their **anniversary**.