

Holiday Party Dec. 2 Replaces December Meeting

Our club's Holiday Party is on Sunday, Dec. 2nd, at Club LeConte at 12:45 p.m. The cost is \$25/person. We have enjoyed wonderful times in the club in the past and look forward to another festive event on the 2nd. The club will be decorated for the holidays and includes mimosas or champagne with the brunch offerings. We will include our Russian guests for this happy occasion.

Free parking is offered in several downtown garages on week-ends, and street parking will be free on Sunday. The parking garage for the First Tennessee building has a charge of \$2 on week-ends.

Make your reservation NOW, so we can give a count to the club. Send your checks to Treasurer Gordon Ford, 6010 Centerwood Dr., Knoxville TN 37920.

Russian Inbound "Open World" Delegation here Nov. 30 – Dec. 8

We welcome fourteen guests, including two Facilitators and two interpreters, as part of the "Accountable Governance" program sponsored by the Library of Congress's "Open World" Leadership Center.

During their visit they will meet with staffers at Representative John J. Duncan, Jr.'s office, and also with staffers of Senator Lamar Alexander and Senator Robert Corker. They will also have a tour of the *News-Sentinel* building with Kim Askey, executive assistant to the publisher. They will have lunch and meet with Editor Jack

McElroy and Cartoonist Charlie Brown. They will visit the University of Tennessee Visitors Center and will lunch at the U.T. Culinary Institute. They will visit Federal Judge Thomas A. Varlan. A tour of the Museum of Science and Energy in Oak Ridge will be included, where they will also have a brief lecture and see a film on the history of "The Secret City" and Oak Ridge's role in World War II. They will lunch with students and faculty at Pellissippi State Community College, and visit Dr. Toni McDaniel's Modern U.S. History class. Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero will host a reception for the group at the City/County Building, and they will also meet with City Councilman Marshall Stair and other political leaders for a roundtable discussion. A visit to Oak Ridge National Laboratory and lunch at the facility is also on the agenda. They will view exhibits at the East Tennessee History Center and participate in a panel discussion with Jack Neely, Associate Editor of *Metro Pulse*, Georgiana Vines, former Associate Editor of the *News-Sentinel*, Greg McKay, former Administrator of Elections for Knox County; and Rikki Hall, a freelance writer for *Metro Pulse*.

In addition to their round of activities related to their "Accountable Governance" theme, they will have numerous social and musical occasions as guests of Friendship Force of Knoxville, including a house concert by the U.T. School of Music Study Club; a welcome dinner at The Westlands clubhouse; the Knoxville Community Band's holiday concert at the historic Bijou Theatre; a visit to the historic Tennessee Theatre where they will hear the Central High School Chorus plus Dr. Bill Snyder performing on the organ; a dinner and live Gospel music cruise on the *Star of Knoxville* paddle-wheel excursion boat; a choral concert

in the Cox Auditorium at the U.T. School of Music; a bluegrass music program at the Knoxville Visitors Center; dinner and optional line-dancing lessons at Cotton-Eyed Joe's; a casual meeting with writers at Preservation Pub in Knoxville's Old City; viewing the Knoxville Christmas parade; and free time for shopping and other optional activities.

Future Exchanges

Incoming from Saskatoon, Canada May 2013

Our friends from the Canadian club in Saskatoon will visit us May 1-8, 2013. We need an exchange director to plan their visit here. They have a small club, so I expect 10-12 in the exchange, hopefully more. This is their first outbound exchange, and we will do our best to make it wonderful.

Exchange Director needed – contact [Joanne](#), if you are willing to organize their visit as E.D.

From Knoxville, they will travel to Morgantown, N.C., for a week's exchange.

Outgoing Domestic to Raleigh, N.C. Date to be determined, 2013

Exchange Director needed. Contact [Joanne](#) if you are willing to organize their visit as E.D.

Club Concerns

Joanne Schuetz fell and broke her wrist yesterday (Nov. 20). She will be in a cast past her right elbow for six weeks.

Congratulations to **Ron and Jean Mayer** who celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 24th.

We have received word that a former member of Friendship Force Knoxville has passed away. **Bob Higgins** of Oak Ridge, most recently living at Shannondale Home in Knoxville, passed away early in November.

Thanks to

Phyllis & Ely Driver for their talk on Thailand and Cambodia at the November meeting.

Dues for 2013

It would help our Treasurer (and Treasury) if you would pay 2013 dues now. We are happy we can continue with the same fee for next year, without a raise in the dues:

\$30 for single

\$45 for family

Please mail your check, made out to Friendship Force Knoxville, to Gordon Ford, treasurer, at 6010 Centerwood Dr., Knoxville 37920.



News from FFI

George Brown to Retire as Friendship Force President Next June

The announcement comes two weeks after the very successful conclusion of FFI's 35th World Conference in Hiroshima, Japan, attended by over 400 members from 24 countries. "It

has been a great honor for me to work for this incredible global organization for a total of 23 years, the last nine years as president,” stated Brown who will turn 68 next June. “The Friendship Force, with its new global expansion plan, is in great shape. I can look back with pride and satisfaction at the record of the past few years, but now is the time for new leadership to carry forward the mission of global friendship that was started in 1977 by Wayne Smith, with the support of Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter.” Brown expects to remain active in the international field but has no plans to take on another fulltime position. “I’m looking forward to slowing down a bit and to taking advantage of the opportunity for personal visits with many of the friends I’ve made around the world.” In accepting Brown’s resignation, Board Chairman Alan Milne of Kapiti Coast, New Zealand, stated: “We will miss George with his enthusiastic and effective leadership. He has made a tremendous contribution to the growth of our organization. We wish him all the best in his retirement years and know he will remain an active friend of the Friendship Force.” Brown first joined the Friendship Force staff in 1983 and worked closely for many years with founder Wayne Smith. The Board of Directors has begun the leadership transition process and expects to have a new president appointed by June 2013. “We are confident that we will find just right person to lead us, building on the strong foundation George Brown has established,” stated Milne. “The Friendship Force is strong and growing and will continue to flourish for years to come.”

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Send club news and other items for the Newsletter to:
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