



February Meeting

Program: Switzerland, Ron & Jean Mayer

Tuesday, Feb. 4 – 6:30 p.m.

Erin Presbyterian Church, 200 Lockett Rd.

6:30 – Refreshments

7:00 – Meeting and Program

Members A-L please bring refreshments.

Directions

Driving east on Kingston Pike, turn right just after Papermill. The church is on your left.

Upcoming Exchanges for FFK

Incoming from New Zealand in May 2014

The Howick, New Zealand club will visit Huntsville, Ala., Shelby, N.C. and Knoxville. They will be here for a week.

The Exchange Director is Phyllis Driver.

Outgoing to Northeast Ohio June 9-13, 2014

The Exchange Director is Ray Simko. A maximum of 15 ambassadors may participate in this exchange.

Outgoing to Calgary, Canada Expected to be late August, 2014

We will join the Austin, Texas, club for a joint exchange to the Calgary region of Canada in

late August 2014. We will have a maximum of 10 ambassadors, as will Austin, since the Calgary club can host 20 ambassadors.

Joanne Schuetz is our club's contact person; the Exchange Director will be a member of the Austin club. The expected date for the exchange is the end of August. We are waiting for further information from the Austin club Exchange Director.

Incoming from Raleigh, N. C. Fall, 2014

The Exchange Director is Sonja DuBois.

President's Note

As we look forward to the New Year, we cannot forget to be thankful for all the hard work of our previous Board, committees and exchange directors, and all the opportunities what were given to us through their efforts.

On behalf of your new Board, we pledge to work hard to continue the success of our club. Such success of course will in great part depend on your support and participation.

The main emphasis for the coming year will be to grow our membership under the leadership of our Vice-President, Jim Dennis. Our new drive is off to a good start and we are fortunate to report that we now have four new members, each one bringing us their special talents. We welcome them!

Our new members are:

Susan Dakak and son J. Paul Dakak

Susan is the daughter of our long-time members Fuad and Layla Mishu. She is married to

Janan Dakak and they are the proud parent of J. Paul Kakak. Both Susan and J. Paul have accompanied Fuad and Layla to many of our functions, and decided to also have their own membership.

J. Paul is a bright 17-year-old young man and an excellent student at Webb, where he plays football (state champs this last year) and is also a madrigal singer. He is very close to his grandparents, Fuad and Layla, and enjoys going with them to many of their activities.

Susan is a graduate Civil Engineer, and the principal and owner of her own successful company, Intuitive Technologies, specializing in field water and wastewater system rehabilitations. The company uses trenchless technology methods – an example being all drainage design for the rehabilitation of Lyons Bend in west Knoxville. Susan has also provided assistance in the rehabilitation of Iraq, including work on women's right, and has been interviewed by over 50 radio and television station on both her experience in Iraq and women's rights issues.

Rea Christodoulou

Rea is the owner and CEO of World Ventures, Tours and Travel (WVTT), a premier travel agency that was established by her late husband Dimitri many years ago. Her son Constantine is part of WVTT and is the manager of their corporate travel services. The company specializes in personalized travel services for both individuals and local and national companies and universities.

Rea enjoys her four grandchildren, two of which are in Knoxville and two are with her daughter Ellie and her husband in North Carolina.

Rea's vast experience in travel and hospitality, and her warm personality, will be a great asset to all our future activities.

Suzan Gebran Leuense

Suzan is originally from Lebanon and has been a successful owner of numerous restaurants both in this area and other states. Suzan has three daughters, one son, and numerous grandchildren. She enjoys travel and has traveled extensively in both the U.S. and overseas. Speaking from personal experience, I can say that she has a great talent preparing delicious food.

We welcome all of them and look forward to many fun times together. We ask that they encourage their friends and other family members to consider taking a look at www.thefriendshipforce.org, which has lots of good information on Friendship Force.

We look forward to having many of our members at our next meeting on February 4 at 6:30 p.m. Please do not hesitate to invite your friends and family. We will bring you up to date on numerous activities for the year, including upcoming exchanges.

We also ask that you pencil in Saturday, March 1, at noon at the Palisades Clubhouse for a "Chinese Auction" fun day. (Details to follow.)

— *Panos Ioannides*

Feb. 15 is 2014 Dues Deadline

Friendship Force dues for 2014 are now payable. Please complete the attached membership form and return it with your dues payment to Ray Simko, 1194 Treymour Way, Knoxville TN 37922. If your dues are not paid by February 15th you will be removed from membership.

Club Concerns

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

Upcoming Events

Oct. 14-16 - FFI World Conference – Auckland, New Zealand.
