

FRIENDSHIP FORCE of KNOXVILLE

March Meeting

The March meeting will be the celebration of World Friendship day on Saturday March 1 details of which follows.

There will be no meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2014,

Celebrate World Friendship Day

Come join us at the Palisades Clubhouse located at 501 Rain Forest, Knoxville, 37923 at noon on Saturday, March 1st for a Pot-Luck Lunch. Meats and beverages will be provided. Members with last names A through D are asked to bring appetizers, E through M side dishes and salads and N through Z desserts. Each dish should be enough for 4 to 6 people.

We will also have a Chinese Auction. What is a Chinese Auction? Members are asked to bring several items each for the auction. Each item will be displayed with a paper bag in front of it. Tickets are 50 cents each, 12 for \$5.00 and 25 for \$10. Place as many tickets in the bag corresponding to the item you desire. At the end of the lunch a ticket will be drawn from each bag to determine the winner of that item.

Remember that old saying "one man's junk is another man's treasure". Things like the vase you got from someone that just doesn't fit in your house or a bowl you got that you just don't like are ideal for the auction.

Also bring a friend or neighbor who might be interested in joining Friendship Force. Remember new members who join by June 30th pay no membership dues this year. The club will also pay for their name badges.

We are looking forward to seeing you on March 1st!

Upcoming Exchanges for FFK

FROM

New Zealand in May 2014

The Howick, N.Z. Club will not be visiting Knoxville because of lack of participation.

FROM

Raleigh, N.C.

October 20-24, 2014, 4 night's duration.
Exchange Director is Sonja DuBois

TO

North Eastern Ohio, June 2014

The exchange is scheduled for arrival in Northeast Ohio on Monday, June 9th departing of Friday June 13th. Presently there are 16 members scheduled to go on this exchange. There may be some cancellations. If you are interested in going on a waiting list for this exchange please contact Ray Simko, ED at raysimko@yahoo.com or (865) 670-3564.

Open World Visit

We have been offered by the Atlanta Home Office, and we have accepted. A delegation of five Russian professional women, accompanied by a translator and a facilitator will arrive in Knoxville on April 30th and depart on May 8th. We are excited about hosting this group and expect final confirmation by the Washington office of Open Word very soon. Phyllis Driver and Panos Ioannides will be the co- Exchange Directors for this Russian delegation. We will be asking for everyone's help and suggestions.

President's Note

Ron Mayer gave an interesting and very entertaining presentation on a trip to Switzerland, taken last summer by Ron and Jean, and six of their friends. The presentation was a series of slides showing their extensive hiking on numerous trails of the Alps. Everyone seemed to have enjoyed the beauty of Switzerland and our many thanks to Ron for sharing their wonderful experience.

Your board's emphasis for this year has been "growing our membership". The successful results, under the leadership of Jim Dennis, were quite evident at the February meeting of our club.

Five new members were present and one visitor. The new members are Rea Christodoulou, Suzan Gebran, Margaret Dixon and Jon and Janet Murray. Margaret came as a guest of Diana Lopez and joined by the end of our meeting. Our visitor was Barbara Darce. Barbara came as a guest of Suzan Gebran We hope that she enjoyed the meeting and will consider joining our club. Not present, due to previous commitments, were new members Susan Dakak and her

son J.P. which brings total of new members this year to seven.

Please continue to talk to your friends about the many wonderful opportunities that are available through Friendship Force.

New Website

A new and exciting website has been developed for the club. To access the site go to Google and enter friendshipforceknoxville.org. This will take you to the new website. Browse through the pages. You will find a listing of 2014 Offices, Board and Committee Chairs and a Calendar of Events for 2014 and a listing of all former club Presidents.

Under Newsletter you will find information from the current newsletter. You will also find earlier newsletters that you can access by clicking on the previous month you would like to see.

You can see a listing of upcoming exchanges. Most of the past inbound and out bound exchanges are also listed.

We are looking for information about exchanges from May 2006 through December 2010. Should have information about these missing exchanges please email that information to raysimko@friendshipforceknoxville.org.

As time goes on other new and interesting features will be added to the website.

Tell your friends and neighbors who might be interested in Friendship Force about the new website.

Birthday and Anniversary Wishes

The membership of the Club extends best wishes to:

Joanne Schuetz

on her birthday
and to:

Fuad & Layla Mishu

on their anniversary.

Change of Officers

Our Secretary, Kaye Bultemeier resigned that Office in January and Shirley Welker has become our new Secretary.

Your Funniest or Most Unusual Travel Experience

We would like to add a new feature to our monthly newsletter. Please tell us about your funny or most unusual travel experience. Email it to Panos Ioannides at pioannides@msn.com. Each month we hope to feature one member's story about their experience.

Change of Editors

Bill and Ruth Boys are in the throes of moving their residence to Columbus, Ohio. We will miss them greatly. Bill has produced a long list of spectacular Newsletters for the Club for which we are all grateful.

Thank you Bill.

A consequence of their move is that future Newsletters will be edited by **Don Dougall** [ddougall@utk.edu]