

FRIENDSHIP FORCE of KNOXVILLE

April Meeting

April's "Out-To-Lunch" will be at noon on Tuesday, April 1st at Surin of Thailand located at 6213 Kingston Pike. We will have the use of their private dining room at the rear of the restaurant. Hope to see you then.

THANK YOU

Recent Survey Results

The FFK Membership Committee would like to say **THANK YOU** to our present Club members and former members for their responses to the recently mailed survey. Over 70% of the surveys have been returned already. The Committee is in the process of studying your comments and suggestions as they begin their task of pursuing new members. Your responses will also help us to continue with those concepts that have made our Club one of the very best.

Upcoming Exchanges for FFK

FROM

New Zealand in May 2014

The Howick, N.Z. Club will not be visiting Knoxville because of lack of their 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 14 members scheduled to go on this exchange. The Exchange Director is Ray Simko.

FROM

Russia

Open World Visit

The dates and some of the details of the Open World Exchange from Russia have been finalized. There will be 6 participants plus an Interpreter plus a Facilitator.

The dates of this visit are April 29 to May 7

Phyllis Driver and Panos Ioannides will be the co- Exchange Directors for this Russian delegation.

The best available information on the details is as follows.

HOSTS

Mishu Translator and Facilitator (2 as usual)

Dennis (up to two)

Rogers (up to two)

We need at least one more host(s).

EVENTS (dates pending)

Visit Federal court proceedings and have a reception

Visit State and County courts

Visit Law School

Possibly visit Legal Council's offices at Scripps-Howard Corp

Visit Mayor's Office

Tennessee Theater on Monday May 5th

Picnic in Smokies
Welcoming reception

TO

Calgary, Canada, Sept. 2014

The dates for the exchange to Calgary, Alberta, Canada have been set. The exchange will be for 7 nights Sept. 4-11, 2014. Applications are now being accepted. Please contact Joanne Schuetz at 521-9937 or print the ambassador application form from the FFI website.

The hosting/club fee is \$150 and the FFI fee is \$165, making the total exchange fee \$315 for the week.

Airfares are now running \$515 to \$630, depending on the airline.

The club will plan a full week of activities in the area and plans to take us to the Rocky Mts. to visit Banff and Lake Louise.

Information about Calgary is on their website www.ff-calgary.ca and on the FFI website. You can read about this exchange on their website where it says "We have an exciting itinerary with a distinctly Western theme planned for our Ambassadors. Depending on the time of year and events taking place during the exchange, visitors will be treated to samples of our Western heritage, watch an international equestrian jumping competition, experience early Prairie history at Heritage Park, enjoy a Western barbecue complete with square dancing, and muchmore."

The FFI All Canada conference will be held in Edmonton (3 hours north of Calgary) Sept. 17-20, and the Edmonton club has a

pre-conference tour scheduled for Sept. 12-16. Ambassadors to the Calgary exchange are invited to join the tour, if interested. You may also attend the All Canada conference and a post-conference homestay. You could stay in Alberta for a month!!!

Our club has 10 openings for this exchange, as it is a joint exchange with the Austin, TX club. We are only planning the exchange; all other tours and conferences would be your responsibility to arrange (although Joanne has application forms she will email to you).

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 Officers, 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. If you 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:

Wayne Berkley

Karen Setzfand

Margaret Dixon

Shirley Welker

on their birthdays
and to:

Lonnie & Ruthie McIntyre

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 moving their residence to Columbus, Ohio on April 1st of this year. 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]