

# FRIENDSHIP

# FORCE of

# KNOXVILLE

Vol. 16, No.8

## October Meeting

**Erin Presbyterian Church,**  
**October 7, 2014, 6.00pm**  
**Social time 6.30-7.00 pm**  
**Board meeting at 6:00-6.30pm**  
**General Meeting 7.00-8.00 pm**  
**Program 7.30-8.00pm. “A Trip to the Congo”**  
presented by Jimmy Jones, Debbie Jones, and  
William Pender and arranged by Phyllis Driver

Erin Presbyterian Church is located at 200  
Lockett Rd. Lockett Rd is the last street on the  
left when approaching the Papermill Rd.  
junction with Kingston Pike when travelling east  
on Kingston Pike.

Would members whose family names begin with  
letters A –M, please bring snacks etc. to the  
Social time?.

## President's Note

I hope that all our members and their families  
have enjoyed a wonderful summer. It went too  
quickly and here we are around the corner to  
fall. UT football is in full force and soon we  
will have the beautiful fall colors to enjoy.

We look forward to presentations in the near  
future by Ruthie and Lonnie McIntyre on  
their recent participation at the FFI Arts and  
Architecture Global Exchange during  
August 13-24, 2014.

We hope to have presentations by members  
of our club who recently visited Calgary,  
Canada.

Sonja and Ron DuBois have been busy  
preparing to receive a group of ambassadors  
from Raleigh, October 20-24, 2014. Please,  
be supportive when you are asked to help.

In addition to our General meeting on  
October 7<sup>th</sup> at Erin Church, your Board  
members will meet for a “Planning Session”  
at noon on October 1<sup>st</sup> on how to make our  
club more fun and more interesting for all.  
Please send me your ideas.

The International conference is around the  
corner beginning on October 14<sup>th</sup> in  
Auckland, NZ. We have not had any  
expression of interest to date. You can find  
details at the Atlanta website in case you

may make a last minute decision to go (thefriendshipforce.org).

The followings committees are needed:

**Nominating Committee** for Club Officers,

**Activities Committee** to examine and recommend additional fun locations for our meetings,

**Committees on Exchanges** to select, evaluate, and recommend possible exchanges to the Club, and

**Speakers Bureau** to identify members who are willing to make presentations about FFK to outside groups.

We will try to fill these committees at the General meeting so please be thinking about where you may prefer to help.

We need to submit to Atlanta, our preferences for the 2016 outgoing exchanges by November 1<sup>st</sup>. We will solicit suggestion on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in the near future.

Panos

## **Exchanges**

2014 World Conference Air Fares

Air New Zealand is an official supporter of the 2014 World Conference. Any Friendship Force member traveling to New Zealand for the conference or to a Friendship Force exchange surrounding the conference is eligible for special reduced airfares.

To take advantage of this special, write to the FFI liaison at Air New Zealand, Lupe Maake ([lupe.maake@airnz.co.nz](mailto:lupe.maake@airnz.co.nz)), with the subject line "Friendship Force". Give her your dates of travel, your home airport, your destination airport and your name as it appears on your passport. She'll respond to you with a quote for your discounted fares.

**Inbound Exchange** from Raleigh, NC. We will host a group of Ambassadors from Raleigh, NC. The dates are October 20 – 24, 2014. Sonja and Ron DuBois are the Exchange Directors

**RALEIGH is coming!** Ten of us had a lovely visit to Raleigh last year many folks besides hosts helped to make it a memorable time for us. Therefore I know that with your assistance and enthusiasm we can respond in kind.

A coordinating meeting will take place for hosts and assistants on October 15. Let us have coffee at Erin at 10 a.m. Please clear your calendar. This meeting is important for a successful exchange. I will call you soon to invite you!

Meanwhile the activity we do so well is on Monday Oct.20 at 6 p.m. WE FEED FOLKS as we welcome them to Knoxville!. We need all of our club members to come to the Palisades and set the stage for a fun exchange for our Raleigh friends!

**Outbound Exchange** to Pau, France. We have an offer to join the Richmond, VA club for the outgoing exchange to Pau, France next year. The Pau club can host up to 20 ambassadors. A joint exchange will be most likely needed to achieve a large

enough group of people. The tentative dates are June or September of 2015. A number of people have made very positive comments about the city and the area. A number of our members have already expressed interest in going. Please mark your calendars and try to make plans to go. Please let **Panos** know if you are, or think you might be interested in this exchange.

## **CALGARY EXCHANGE**

### Report by Ray Simko

Eight Knoxville Ambassadors traveled to Calgary at different times to join eight Ambassadors from the Austin club for an activity filled week from September 4 to September 11.

Friday, September 4 Ambassadors and hosts meet in downtown Calgary for a welcome at City Hall. Next, we went up to the top of Calgary Tower for a 360 degree view from the tallest building in Calgary. What beautiful vistas no matter where you looked. For the brave at heart you could step out onto a glass floor extended out from the building to look down at the city. All the day's walking built up a good appetite for a buffet lunch in Chinatown. The remainder of the afternoon Ambassadors explored the downtown in warm temperatures of 75 degrees visiting areas shops and museums. That evening there was a "Meet & Greet" giving everyone an opportunity to spend time with other members of the Calgary club.

The beautiful sun filled skies welcomed everyone Saturday morning with the daily high temperatures of 77degrees as they

drove to the Alberta Foothills to the Millarville Farmer's Market. Other than food there was a large selection of area arts and crafts. Ambassadors then had to see where the first oil well was drilled in Alberta at what is now the Turner Valley Gas Plant. Lunch was at the Saskatoon Berry Farm. Individual activities were planned for the evening.

Sunday, September 7 was another activity filled day with a high temperature of 79 degrees for the visit to Heritage Park. We were taken on a guided tour through the Historical Village, on a ride on a steam locomotive and a ride on a paddle wheeler boat and a nice walk to the Wanwright Hotel for lunch. Ambassadors then spent the remainder of the afternoon visiting the Famous 5 Centre and Gasoline Alley. The evening was spent with Home Hosts.

Everyone was surprised Monday morning to wake-up to snow on the ground. Calgary weather said 5cm or just about 2 inches that turned out to be eight inches of snow and high temperatures in the 30's. This snow fall was big change from the first three days in Calgary. Ambassadors learned this was the first time in many years there was so much snow on this date. Fortunately it was a free day for the Ambassadors. Many homes were without power and many trees and branches had fallen due to the heavy wet snow. That evening there were hosted dinners that fortunately were close to the Home Host's home. The snow had begun to melt.

Tuesday, September 9 was the bus ride to Banff and Lake Louise. It was cold but the roads were dry. Unfortunately the skies were overcast and the mountains were shrouded

in light fog. In Banff, Ambassadors visited the Whyte Museum after lunch. Throughout the bus ride Ambassadors received a wonderful narration about the area and its history. Upon return to Calgary the evening was free.

Wednesday morning Ambassadors awoke to another snowfall, this time amounting to nearly 10 inches in places. The scheduled visit to Spruce Meadows was cancelled. They had no electric power and the roads were icy. Ambassadors thus missed seeing the equestrian show jumping and the RCMP Musical ride. The formal Farewell Dinner was also cancelled due to the weather.

## **New Members**

Welcome to new members:-

**Janis and Bruce Robinson**

## **Birthday Wishes**

The membership of the club extends best wishes to:

**Carolyn Dougall**

**Ray Simko**

**Suzan Gebran**

**Rea Christodoulou**

**Charles Thomas**

**Susan Dakak**

**Charmin Foth**

on their birthdays.

## **Club Concerns**

Anyone who knows of things involving our members (happy, sad, etc.) please let Renee Ioannides know about them, at either 691-7878 or by email at [rioannides@msn.com](mailto:rioannides@msn.com).

